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#### OUR WINTER ISSUE.

The date is January 26, 1901. The number will be  
 The first *édition de luxe* of the twentieth century, and  
 The best for beginning the year's business, as well as  
 The brightest for a good advertisement, and  
 The surest for distributing circulars and price-lists.  
 It will be sent to 12,000 business-places.  
 It will be read by the best buyers in the trade.  
 It will be kept for reference in every part of the globe.  
 It will be well, therefore, that all firms wishing to do business or to increase their business with buyers in the drug, chemical, and allied trades of the British Empire to ensure that they have an advertisement or an inset in  
 The Winter Issue of **THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST**.

#### Summary.

AN INDEX to this volume is inserted after p. 1048.

THE PLAGUE has been scotched in Cape Colony (p. 1020).

NEW POSTAL REGULATIONS are briefly epitomised on p. 1016.

SOME more appreciations of the C. & D. DIARY, 1901, are printed on p. 1026.

VINOLIA'S FIRST DIVIDEND is 8 per cent. on the ordinary shares (p. 1024).

TINCTURE OF IPECACUANHA appears to be as unsatisfactory as the wine (p. 1027).

MESSRS. BOILEAU & BOYD, of Dublin, are celebrating their centenary (p. 1018).

A REPORT on Natal trade last year is one of the items in our South African letter (p. 1020).

SOME curious 1800 reflections on medical treatment have been unearthed by "Xrayser" (p. 1038).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL EVENTS of 1900 are the subject of rather a long article beginning on p. 1039.

OUR STAFF POET has burst into song on the occasion of the first year of a new century (p. 1034).

QUICKSILVER-PRODUCTION in the United States amounts to about 28,000 bottles a year (p. 1021).

THE DEATH of Mr. C. E. Turner, Ph.C., Bloomsbury, is one of those reported in our obituary columns (p. 1025).

SEVERAL USEFUL MEDICAL HINTS are given on p. 1027. The treatment of infantile eczema is one of the subjects.

THE composition of the salt last sent to corner students is given on p. 1016, but we hold the reward until next week.

BUSINESS ON 'CHANGE and in Mincing Lane is practically stopped this week, and there are few changes to report.

AN IDEA of the kind of pharmaceutical goods wanted in British East Africa is given in the paragraph on p. 1030.

THE American Dr. Cunningham failed to convince the High Court jury that the *Daily Express* had libelled him (p. 1023).

SOME FACTS about the work of the new Economic Museum in Calcutta (of which Mr. David Hooper is curator) are given on p. 1021.

AN exceptionally large number of new companies have been registered this past week, most of them in connection with pharmacy (p. 1023).

A MEDICINE-MANUFACTURER at Louth has been fined under the Lotteries Act in respect to a scheme for promoting the sale of his products (p. 1016).

A RAMMELSBERG MEMORIAL LECTURE has been delivered to the Chemical Society by Professor Henry Miers, and is reported with a portrait on p. 1031.

A CHEMIST'S ASSISTANT, who has wandered all over the world and has had strange experiences, relates them in a C.A.U. article reported on p. 1029.

"SUNFLOWER-SOAP" was sold in Cape Colony which was so like sunlight soap in get-up, that a restraining-verdict has been granted by the Chief Justice (p. 1020).

MR. ABRAHAM'S BILL and the Pharmaceutical Council's draft were discussed by the Liverpool Chemists' Association last week, and the draft was favourably viewed (p. 1029).

THE union of hydrogen chlorine is generally regarded as a settled thing, but after reading what Mr. Mellor and Mr. Baker say about it one must conclude that it is not (p. 1031).

M. BERTHELOT has had something to say about Count von Bülow's recent utterances regarding Great Britain and her continental relations *re* the South African question (p. 1019).

DR. BRUCE, the direct representative for Scotland on the General Medical Council, has got into trouble with his constituents in consequence of his voting in the Airdrie doctor's case (p. 1035).

MR. SMELT, the Manchester Coroner, has rather severely questioned a local chemist in regard to the sale of poisons, but his knowledge of the pharmacy is not accurate or up-to-date (p. 1016).

MR. JOHN THOMPSON has retired from the firm of S. Maw, Son & Thompson, which becomes on January 1, 1901, S. Maw, Son & Sons. We print an appreciation of, and interview with, Mr. Thompson, who has been an active worker in the drug trade for three-score years (p. 1032).



## Students' Corner.

CONDUCTED BY RICHARD J. MOSS, F.I.C., F.C.S.

### QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS.

A MIXTURE of not more than three salts will form the subject of the next exercise in qualitative analysis. The mixture is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, all its constituents are to be detected, and proof is to be given that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts (accompanied by a *stamped and addressed envelope*, not a stamp merely) will be received up to Monday, January 7, 1901, and the samples will be posted on January 8.

Students' reports will be received up to Tuesday, January 15. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected. In this list any substance regarded as an accidental impurity should be distinguished from the essential constituents of the salts composing the mixture.

The mixture of salts sent to students on November 29 contained 3 parts of copper sulphate, 1 of tartar emetic, and 1 of bismuth oxynitrate.

The calculated composition of such a mixture is—

Cu	...	...	...	...	15.25
Sb	...	...	...	...	7.11
Bi	...	...	...	...	13.72
K	...	...	...	...	2.27
SO <sub>4</sub>	...	...	...	...	23.10
NO <sub>3</sub>	...	...	...	...	4.05
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	...	...	...	...	8.64
O	...	...	...	...	1.98
H <sub>2</sub> O	...	...	...	...	23.88
					100.00

Iron and a slight trace of calcium were present as impurities. Notes by Mr. Moss on the analysis, with his hints to competitors, and the results will be published in our next issue.

## English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Brevities.

Mr. R. H. Harland has been appointed public analyst for Greenwich Town at a salary of 100*l.* per annum on condition that he analyses 200 samples a year.

James Watson, drysalter, Bollington, was fined 20*s.* and costs for selling camphorated oil which contained 20 per cent. of camphor and 80 per cent. of mineral oil.

At Dartford Petty Sessions on December 20 Fredk. Packman, Swanley, was fined 10*s.* and costs for selling olive oil which the County Analyst certified to consist wholly of cotton-seed oil.

The Local Government Board has informed the medical officers of the East Preston Union that the glycerinated calflymph supplied by them has an average success of 98.5 per cent., and an insertion success of 93.3 per cent.

A man described in the charge-sheet as a chemist had a night off last week and experimented with a fire-alarm in Kilburn. He was fined 3*l.* and 2*s.* costs at Marylebone on December 21, for breaking the glass of the fire-alarm.

At Dunmow County Court last week, Mr. Edward Piggott Minett, pharmaceutical chemist, Stansted, sued Dr. Kenneth Morell Mackenzie, of Thaxted, son of the late Sir Morell Mackenzie, under a judgment summons for 6*l.* 10*s.*, for goods supplied and costs. Defendant was ordered to pay the debt by 10*s.* a month.

At Lambeth on December 22, John William Shaw, described as a chemist (but not registered as such), was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour on a charge of being found at the South London School of Pharmacy with intent to commit a felony. The circumstances of the case were reported in our issue of December 22, page 981.

The office of Mr. Watson Will at the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy was broken into on December 20, and a type-writer and other goods to the value of 60*l.* stolen, besides damage being done to desks and bookcases. The following are prize-winners at the winter sessional examination at this college:—Bronze medals: Pharmacy, Mr. S. G. Constance; materia medica, Mr. F. J. Smith; Chemistry, Mr. G. Kenworthy; botany, Mr. E. T. Mathers; dispensing, Mr. E. L. Merry.

### Postal Changes.

With the new year revised rates of postage will be enforced on parcels sent to New Zealand, British Central Africa Protectorate, Constantinople and Smyrna, Caroline, Morian, and Palaos Islands, Marshall Islands, Brazil, and Northern Rhodesia. No parcel weighing over 7 lbs. can be sent to Northern Rhodesia. The rate to that country will be 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb. On January 1 money-orders may be obtained in the United Kingdom for payment at Athens, Corfu, Patras, the Piræus, Syra, and Volo.

### "Christmas Hampers."

At Louth (Lincs) on December 20, Ernest George Cheetham, of Cannon Street, Louth, was charged with having published circulars offering fifty Christmas hampers "cram full of good things" to purchasers of the preparations of "Dr. Fenn's Medicine Company, incorporated with the Veldt Manufacturing Company," under which title he traded. The circular included the following:—

To every person who sends to our dépôt a postal order value the price of any of these preparations, we shall, with the article, send a duplicate numbered ticket, we retaining one ourselves. For each bottle or box ordered within four days after delivery of this notice, one ticket will be sent, so if three boxes or bottles were ordered you would receive three separate numbers, and perhaps obtain three hampers. Those numbered tickets which we hold, and which correspond with those sent to you, are all put in a box after being placed in separate plain envelopes. They will then be thoroughly mixed up, and fifty drawn out at random, by some person appointed by the committee. These drawn numbers will be advertised in the front "Personal" column of the *Morning Leader*, on the morning of December 15. And such persons having the duplicate of any number or numbers must return them to our office, and will then be entitled to receive hampers as stated.

Defendant contended that each person received full value for the money expended, the hampers being merely a "seasonable present" which he offered as an inducement for people to buy the commodities he was introducing to the market.

The Bench inflicted a fine of 5*l.* and 11*s.* costs, and warned defendant that a repetition of the offence would bring upon him the full penalty of the law.

### The Coroner and the Pharmacy Act.

At an inquest before Mr. Sidney Smelt, the Manchester City Coroner, on December 20, touching the death of a painter, named Jabez Shaw, who had poisoned himself with carbolic acid, the Coroner sent for the chemist who supplied the acid, and examined him as follows:—

The Coroner: What is your name?—Joseph Oakley. What are you?—A chemist. Where do you live?—At 40 Vere Street. And where do you practise as a chemist?—At 39 Higher Ardwick. Are you registered?—Yes. [The Coroner examined the register.] You are registered at 157 Liverpool Road, Cadishead?—I used to live there. When?—Some years ago. According to the Act of Parliament relating to chemists, we have only to accept the addresses given here. How do we know you are Joseph Oakley, of 157 Liverpool Road, Cadishead?—All the communications from the Pharmaceutical Society come to me at 40 Vere Street. Did you sell this carbolic acid to the deceased?—Yes. How is it your name is not on the label?—Because it is not required. The business is being carried on by the executors of the late Edmund Holt. The label is as follows:—"Established 1810. Carbolic acid. Poison. Edmund Holt, cash chemist, 39 Higher Ardwick, near Ardwick Green, Manchester. Late 268 Deansgate, City." Edmund Holt does not carry on business at 39 Higher Ardwick.



and never did. He did in Deansgate. I happen to know that. This label is misleading. Why don't you get the right label on? Chemists who sell poisons have to have their names on the labels. Edmund Holt, cash chemist, is not the seller. You are the seller?—Yes. It is the name of the chemist who sells it that has to be on?—The Act does not require it. Oh, yes; the Act is very clear upon it. If you go to a co-operative stores, or any stores where they sell poisons, the name of the qualified chemist they employ is on the label?—Jesse Boot is not a chemist, and never has been. Jesse Boot is a chemist, and he is registered as a chemist?—I thought he was not. I understood he was a chemist. I have seen his name on medicines as a chemist?—He calls himself a chemist, but he is not a registered chemist. Then, if that is so, he is acting wrongly; but I have been given to understand that he was a chemist.

The Coroner then read the first clause of the Pharmacy Act in full, and a juror asked if Lewis's, in Market Street, used the labelling system. The Coroner (who is a barrister-at-law) did not know how Lewis's did, and Mr. Oakley explained that the Pharmaceutical Society had a new Act under consideration, and stated that at present limited companies can sell poisons.

The Coroner: Then they are acting wrongly and unlawfully, and the executors of Edmund Holt are acting unlawfully in calling themselves "Edmund Holt, cash chemist," when they are not. The best thing would be to prosecute a few of the companies, and see what the Magistrates would say.

Mr. Oakley then explained that deceased brought him a clear-glass bottle for the carbolic, which he refused to use, but gave him a fluted poison-bottle instead.

After witness had signed his depositions, the Coroner was asked if any expenses would be allowed him as a witness.

The Coroner: No; I shall not pay him anything. He is not properly registered. The Act is clear. The names and addresses of chemists must be registered and entered in this book, and if not registered we are not allowed to accept their statements. The object of registration is that you may be found at the address you register. We used to have a great deal of trouble with the late Mr. Edmund Holt when he lived in Deansgate. He was always prescribing and acting as a doctor. Now the trouble seems likely to be passed on to his executors. I hope the Pharmaceutical Society will do something. I do not think it is right that a limited company should call themselves chemists. It looks clearly to me as an evasion of the Act.

A Juror: Have Lewis's a qualified manager?

The Coroner: I do not know, but I know at the Household Stores they have a qualified manager, and his name is always on the bottle. He is always registered, and he is very particular about it.

This closed the inquiry. A verdict of suicide whilst insane was returned.

#### Complimentary Dinner to Mr. Edward Evans, Jun.

As briefly mentioned in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST last week, Mr. Edward Evans, jun., was entertained to dinner by the Junior Reform Club in that city on December 20. The proceedings were of a most enthusiastic character, and Captain William Denton, C.C., who presided, spoke in the warmest terms of Mr. Evans's services to his party. Mr. Evans received an ovation on rising to reply, and, in speaking, devoted most of his remarks to the South African War, in regard to which he pleaded that country should go before party until the war is concluded, when, he hoped, the settlement would be on the liberal principles enjoyed by our colonies.

#### Self-medication.

At an inquiry, held at Lambeth on December 20, into the death of Mary Brown, the wife of a Clapham stonemason, the husband stated that prior to eighteen months ago they had lived in the Transvaal, and while there his wife had a miscarriage, and her doctor gave her some medicated tablets, which she had frequently used since. She usually dissolved them in water, however, but on December 6 she used one just as she took it from the bottle. Later in the day she complained of pains, and on the following morning she was so much worse that the witness called in Dr. Williams, to whom his wife gave full particulars. At the doctor's suggestion the witness destroyed the remainder of the tablets, lest his children should get hold of them. The deceased was eventually removed to St. Thomas's Hospital, where she died.

Dr. Williams, of Stewart's Road, Battersea, said deceased told him that she had used a soloid of perchloride of mercury, and after the *post-mortem* examination he was of opinion that death was due to the action of mercurial poisoning. Mr. H. M. Harwood, house physician at St. Thomas's Hospital, agreed as to the cause of death, and the jury found that the deceased used the poison for a legitimate purpose, and returned a verdict of death by misadventure.

#### A Faithful Servant.

On Friday, at a meeting of the Guardians of the Wolverhampton Union on December 21, it was stated that Mr. Morris, the Union dispenser, had so far recovered that he would be fit to commence duty in a few days. In the course of a long discussion on the subject it was stated that Mr. Morris had been in the service of the Board for twenty-three years, and had always discharged his duties as dispenser to the satisfaction of the committee, and, except during these occasional absences through illness, his attendances had been exemplary, and he had never made a mistake. It was ultimately resolved, seeing that Mr. Morris was in poor health, to do what could be done by the Board to obtain consent of the Local Government Board to adding two years to Mr. Morris's term of service, and thus entitle him to a retiring allowance of about 52*l.* per annum.

#### Fires.

A fire broke out at the works of Messrs. H. Hyde & Co. wholesale druggists and dysalsters, Moss Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, on December 21, owing to the ignition of some turpentine.

A fire broke out in the stable and warehouses at the rear of the shop of Mr. W. T. Hey, chemist, Low Ousegate, York, on December 21. The outbreak was checked before serious damage was done either to the adjacent oil-store or to the shop.

While some resin-ointment was in course of preparation at the warehouse of Mr. Daniel Yates, chemist and druggist, Weir Street, Blackburn, it boiled over, and fire occurred. Before the flames could be subdued a portion of the roof had been destroyed.

A fire at the warehouse of the Timothy White Company, chemists, Portsmouth, occurred on December 19. The outbreak originated on the first floor over the shop in Great Southsea Street, and it was fortunately confined to that floor, but between 700*l.* and 800*l.* damage was done before it was subdued.

#### Contracts.

Belper Workhouse.—Mr. C. W. Southern, Belper, for drugs.

Cumberland Infirmary.—Mr. J. Robson, chemist and druggist, Scotch Street, Carlisle, for drugs.

Elham (Kent) Workhouse.—Mr. E. Bing, chemist and druggist, St. George's Street, Canterbury, for drugs.

Cannock Workhouse.—Mr. T. W. Garland, pharmaceutical chemist, Cannock, Calvert's No. 9 carbolic soap, 27*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.; brimstone, 1*½d.* per lb.

At the meeting last week of the Tending Board of Guardians it was resolved that in future the Board should provide the drugs for the workhouse-infirmary, but it was decided not to make any alteration in the salary of the medical officer on account of the change.

#### The Week's Poisonings.

Only ten poisoning fatalities are reported this week, seven of which were caused by scheduled poisons. The unscheduled poisons used were ammonia, salt of lemon, and hydrochloric acid. In connection with the last, it was stated at the inquest that the acid was obtained at the shop of Charles Thomson, oilman, Broadway, Barking. Thomson told the Coroner that there were no restrictions upon the sale of the acid, and the inquest was adjourned.—At Sutton Schools recently a boy was accidentally given poison by a cook in mistake for medicine, and the coroner's jury drew the attention of the school managers to the laxity of poison-storage and administration in the establishment. At the meeting of the managers on December 18 the subject was discussed, and it



was ultimately resolved that in future, blue-fluted bottles be always used for poisons, and that the administration of medicines be entirely under the control of the medical officer, or of persons directly authorised by him, and that separate cupboards be used for poisons and ordinary medicines, to have a separate key to be solely in the charge of the person authorised by the medical officer.

## Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Personal.

Dr. Henry Taaffe, M.D., L.P.S.I., Waterloo Place, London-derry, has been appointed a justice of the peace for the city of Derry.

### Bicentenary of an Irish House.

Messrs. Boileau & Boyd (Limited), Dublin, celebrated the completion of the second centenary of the house on Friday, December 21. Mr. S. P. Boyd, the chairman of the company, entertained the staff at his residence, Dromana, Lason Park. After dinner loyal and other toasts were honoured, including "May the Old House Flourish." A musical entertainment followed. Each member of the staff was presented with a handsome bonus, and the workpeople and porters each received a week's wages to commemorate the event. The company has issued a souvenir pamphlet with history of the house during 200 years, which is beautifully produced.

### Death of the Doctor.

Last week at Newry an inquest was held on the body of a man named William Howard, a vendor of cures for tooth-ache, neuralgia, and rheumatism, who was found lying on the roadside in a wet, cold, and shivering condition. When the police arrived death had ensued. Deceased had two bags which contained drugs, papers, lint, and a few bottles. He was 65 years old. The deceased was a well-known figure in all market towns in the North and South of Ireland, and was known to the country folk as the "Doctor," and at one time was in comfortable circumstances. Medical evidence was given that death resulted from hunger and privation.

### Principal or Interest.

Last week, before the Master of the Rolls, Dublin, a lawsuit respecting the will of the late Mr. Thomas Willis, proprietor of the Medical Hall, Ormond Quay, Dublin, was decided after a protracted hearing. The point at issue was as to whether certain property bequeathed to testator's three daughters should be divided equally amongst them on attaining 21 years of age each, or tied up during their lives so that the survivor would receive the whole of the bequest. His Lordship held that the daughters would continue as heretofore to receive their respective shares of the interest and dividends, but that the principal should remain vested in the executors.

## Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Business Change.

The business formerly carried on at 158 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh, by Mr. C. Fraser, chemist and druggist, has been acquired by Mr. D. B. Richardson.

### Fires.

A destructive fire broke out in St. Andrews on December 22 in a public-house adjoining an extensive block of buildings belonging to Messrs. Smith & Govan, chemists. The original building was gutted, and Messrs. Smith & Govan's premises had a narrow escape.

A serious explosion, followed by a fire, took place last week at the factory of the Aberdeen Comb-works Company (Limited), and resulted in injury to two workmen and considerable damage to property. The Keronokin mill, which is used for reducing waste horn and hoof to manure, was being fed by a workman, and it is supposed that, through the presence of a nail or piece of steel, the dust was by some means ignited, and a violent explosion ensued. The woodwork in the mill was set on fire, but the flames were put out by means of the hose-reel at the works.

### A Students' Dinner.

On Thursday, December 20, the second annual dinner of the students of the West of Scotland College of Pharmacy was held in the Alexandra Hotel, Glasgow. Mr. J. Anderson Russell presided, and he was supported by Messrs. Thos. S. Barrie, R. Walter, W. L. Currie, J. P. Gilmour, David Watson, and Martin Meldrum. The guests numbered seventy. After dinner and the loyal toasts, Mr. Currie proposed "The College." In the course of his speech he stated that thirty years ago doctors' shops were practically supreme in the West of Scotland. Since that time properly qualified chemists had become more numerous, and were the only fit persons to be entrusted with the handling of powerful remedies—a dictum which certain local writers would faintly recognise, but replace by length of service. Mr. Barrie briefly replied. In the course of his remarks he recommended that students, when their collegiate course was over, should not sell their books, but should turn their attention to some branch of knowledge, and know it thoroughly, pointing out at the same time that the most successful men of the present and the past were men of great knowledge and wide reading. The toast of "The Visitors" was very neatly proposed by Mr. Jas. Thomson, and replied to by Mr. J. P. Gilmour. Mr. Gilmour referred to the action of the Pharmaceutical Society and the Medical Council, and showed how necessary organisation was to make headway in this period of storm and stress. Other toasts followed, and songs were given in the course of the evening.

## Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

MR. W. A. PEAKE has bought the business of Mr. R. B. G. Silversides, Barnet.

PARKES' DRUG-STORES (LIMITED) are to open a branch at the Exchange, Muswell Hill.

MR. C. H. AVERILL has purchased the business at Lichfield lately carried on by Mr. Perkins.

MR. C. J. RACKHAM, of Eltham, has bought the business of Mr. Morris, at 331 West Green Road, N.

ON and after January 1, 1901, the business of Whitcombe & Rogers, Petworth, will be carried on by Mr. F. Rogers.

MR. W. J. PINCHIN, chemist and druggist, Kilburn, is opening a new pharmacy at St. James Parade, Muswell Hill.

THE business of Mr. J. Stewart, 107 Old Town Street, Plymouth, on and after January 1, 1901, will be carried on by Mr. J. J. Cox.

MR. CECIL HANSON AVERILL, chemist and druggist (son of Mr. John Averill, pharmaceutical chemist, Stafford), has purchased the business carried on for many years at Tamworth Street, Lichfield, by Mr. J. J. Perkins.

MR. WILSON, chemist, Rochdale Road, Harpurhey, has bought the business which has been carried on for many years by Mr. Newbould (Newbould & Co.) at 390 Oxford Road, Manchester. Mr. Newbould is retiring.

MR. A. H. BENSON, chemist and druggist, who has opened a new branch premises at 6 King Street, Wigan. The whole premises have been remodelled, the old-fashioned single window having been replaced by two new ones. A speciality is made of photographic and lantern apparatus. The shop, inside and out, is enamelled in cream, white, and gold, being an acceptable change to the orthodox polished mahogany.



## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**X-RAYS IN THE LAW COURT.**—A lady is bringing an action for damages against her physician in Paris for disfigurement and inconvenience caused by the use of the Röntgen rays. It appears that the fair client was suffering from neuralgic pains in her face, and the doctor subjected her to the X-rays. She had ten sittings in all, for nine of which the doctor himself operated, but for the tenth he was replaced by an assistant. On the morrow of the last sitting the lady awoke with a swollen eye and a bald patch on the right side of her head. Her case is that this untoward result was occasioned by want of experience on the part of the assistant, for which she desires to render the doctor responsible.

**THREE MONTHS FOR A "QUACK."**—On December 22 an inventor of quack remedies, Dr. Fusilier by name, had an opportunity of explaining the merits of his infallible remedy for the complete cure of rheumatism to the judges in the Tenth Correctional Chamber of the Paris Law Courts. He guaranteed the cure, but apparently it sometimes killed instead, as the evidence given on behalf of the relatives of one of his former patients showed. The *modus operandi*, as explained by the doctor, was to smear the patient's entire body in lard and then to wrap him up in sheep-skins. In the case in question the patient's temperature was increased to such an extent that he only survived the treatment a few hours. For his defence, Dr. Fusilier sought to prove that he was an inventor of secret remedies that have proved most successful, and he also desired to figure as a philanthropist, but the Judges meted out punishment to the extent of three months' imprisonment, and a fine equivalent to 24*l*.

**INJURIOUS HAIR DYES.**—A question of responsibility in the matter of the sale of hair-dyes was decided in a Paris law court a few days ago. A lady brought a claim for damages against a coiffeur on the ground that a hair-dye purchased by her on his recommendation had produced eczema of the scalp. The Judge decided that the hair-dresser could not be considered responsible, as the hair-dye was not actually applied by him, but was merely sold to the customer for her own use. The evidence given in court was like a scene from a comedy. The plaintiff admitted that she was no longer in the first blush of youth, and had sought refuge in hair-dye to stay the unwelcome advent of grey hair, but the deep auburn colour that met her view in the looking-glass after the first attempt did not satisfy her artistic taste, and she experimented with one hue after another, the result in the end being that her hair acquired a colour such as the rainbow would show after having been dragged through the mud. The quick-witted Parisienne sought to check this unfortunate state of things by trying a jet-black dye, which was fairly successful; but when eczema developed she attributed it to the hair-dye and tried for damages.

**MUTUAL HELP.**—The Paris Court of Cassation has just given judgment in a matter of considerable interest to French pharmacists. Under the terms of the law passed in 1898 regarding the organisation and management of mutual aid societies, each society is empowered to have a pharmacy of its own, or one pharmacy may be established to serve for several less wealthy societies. The only condition is that the pharmacies must be managed by a properly qualified man. In order to find out exactly what privileges are conferred on the mutual-aid societies, the syndicate of pharmacists of the Bouches du Rhône, in the south of France, brought an action against one of the societies at Marseilles, and another against a group of associations. Reference has been already made to the subject in the *C. & D.* The Syndicate maintained that the societies carried on the business of pharmacists by selling drugs and medicines to their members instead of delivering them gratuitously, and that, in addition, they supplied the families of members. The societies obtained judgment in their favour on the first hearing, and also in the Court of Appeal. The syndicate of pharmacists thereupon brought the matter to the Court of Cassation, the highest tribunal in France. This Court has

now confirmed the judgment already given, on the ground that the law of 1898 does not render it obligatory for the mutual-aid societies to deliver the drugs and medicines gratuitously that are supplied by their special pharmacies to their members, also that the law contains no prohibitions against the delivery of such remedies to the families of members. On the contrary, the first article of the law foresees the participation of the families of members in the advantages obtainable through the mutual-aid societies.

**IN THE OLDEN DAYS.**—Dr. Dorveaux, the librarian of the Paris School of Pharmacy, is engaged in preparing a reprint of an interesting sixteenth-century pamphlet entitled, "Exposure of Abuses and Deceits of Apothecaries, very useful and necessary to everyone careful of his health." The original is in the Paris National Library, and bears the name of Lisset Benancio, supposed to be the anagram of Sébastien Colin, doctor at Fontenay-le-Comte. The book was published in 1553 at Tours, and went through several editions in France within a few years, being afterwards translated into German and Latin. From an advance-proof of Dr. Dorveaux's reprint which I have received, I find that he has been at great pains to reproduce the original text, and its elucidation is greatly facilitated by his numerous footnotes. Benancio's text is at times very amusing, and furnishes insight into the manners of the time. "Where," he asks, "is there a town or village that is not full of apothecaries and barbers acting as doctors, who by their impudent promises decoy poor patients, and make themselves rich by a science or art which they have never studied?" Elsewhere the author complains that apothecaries disguise the nature of medicines, instead of administering them as provided by nature for the use of man in infirmity. The following extract gives a fair idea of his style: "Should we not esteem any Prince as the greatest of tyrants who would extort a tax from his people because he walks on the earth, or makes use of the air, fire, or water? Yet how many things originate on the earth by the will of the Almighty and virtue of his four elements which apothecaries sell dearer than gold or silver! Is it not a cruel robbery and inhuman theft to extort and take 15 or 20 *souls* for a recipe ordered by a doctor in which there are only two or three simple roots? Not envy, but rather fraternal friendship, inspires me to describe a part of the abuses made by apothecaries, this according to the doctrine of St. Paul, which commands us to hate all vices, and not to esteem the vicious as our enemies, but to correct them as our brothers."

**M. BERTHELOT ON INTERVENTION.**—The eminent chemist and pharmacien-statesman, M. Berthelot, has given an expression of opinion with regard to the recent statement by Count von Bülow that Germany learned for a certainty that it would have stood alone in the event of a conflict with Great Britain after the Jameson raid. M. Berthelot states, as he was holding the portfolio of Minister of Foreign Affairs at that time, he is in a position to say that neither he personally nor the French Government were approached on the subject. He adds that he received a Boer deputation during his ministry, and he appears to have given them some encouragement. This amounts to a contradiction to the German statesman, but it says little for all M. Berthelot's scientific wisdom, of which he talks so much, if he was prepared to lead France into war with England over the Jameson raid. A sort of legend exists that M. Berthelot has invented an explosive of such extraordinary strength that it is in his power to enable France to bring its next war to a speedy close. At the time he was Minister of Foreign Affairs it was suggested by a humorist that he had prepared a secret potion which had the quality of making all his diplomatic guests acquiesce in his views and opinions. Writing of French and German diplomacies reminds me of an anecdote related by Prince von Münster-Derneberg (who is about to retire from the post of German Ambassador to the French Republic) across the counter of a well-known English pharmacy in Paris. The Prince was speaking of the difference in character between English and Germans—how easily, for instance, German servants fell into the ways of French people, and what difficulty the English ones meet with through their insular prejudice. "There was an English coachman I had here," said the Prince, "who would have it there was nothing of any use to be got in Paris"—emphatic and such-like things I understood. "But one day, being at the stables, the coachman told me there were a number of



mice about. 'Very good, Jones,' I replied; 'if there are any mice you had better get a cat.' 'Very good, your Excellency,' said the man; 'then I will just order one from England, because these French cats arn't no good'; and the man got his cat from London."

## South African News.

(From our Cape Town Correspondent.)

**MEDICAL LICENCES GRANTED.**—Licences have been issued authorising the following gentlemen to practise as medical practitioners in Cape Colony:—L. J. G. Carre, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.D. U. Brussels; A. J. B. Albertijn, L.R.C.P. Edin., L.R.C.S. Edin., L.F.P.S. Glasg.; and P. G. Leeb du Toit, M.B., B.S., M.D. Univ. Edin.

**THE UNITED STATES CONSUL-GENERAL,** J. G. Stowe, of Cape Town, ever on the alert, has issued another report for the information of American manufacturers, in anticipation of a large trade for his country. Incidentally he mentions that Canada is sending a Consul (the first) to Cape Town with commercial representatives, and is also trying to inaugurate a direct line of steamships. He recommends manufacturers to send their own men to exploit goods, after which (if only one visit is made) they must depend upon the importing agents to furnish later orders.

**REFUSING TO SELL.**—An Indian named Hasam was charged at Cape Town, on November 29, with refusing to sell to an inspector of the Food, Drugs, and Seeds Act, three bottles of vinegar, which were among others exposed for sale in his shop in Wale Street. P.C. Sinclair Gunn stated that he went to the defendant's shop to purchase three bottles of vinegar for the purpose of having it analysed. Accused said that he had none. A cask in the shop, he was told, contained oil. Witness went round to examine the cask, and although the defendant tried to prevent him he secured a quantity of the liquid from the cask, which he afterwards found to be vinegar. A fine of 10s. was imposed.

**RED CROSS SUPPLIES.**—Mr. Pott, ex Z.A.R. and O.V.S. Consul at Lourenço Marques, is off to Europe in a German steamer, leaving behind him hundreds of Boer refugees. Upwards of 150 are down with fever, and as Delagoa Bay is a veritable hotbed of malaria at this time of the year, their lot is a hard one. Driven by the British troops into the low veldt, which is likewise extremely unhealthy during the rainy season, there remained no option but to either surrender to the British or Portuguese; they chose the latter. It would be interesting to have some Boer impressions of Delagoa as a health-resort, as compared with Ceylon or St. Helena. The large quantities of Boer Red Cross supplies are still unclaimed by those to whom they were originally consigned, and the question presents itself as to how Mr. Pott will dispose of the goods. It will be remembered that in the absence of the consignee the Consul accepted delivery.

**SUNLIGHT v. SUNFLOWER.**—In the Supreme Court, Cape Town, on December 4, the case of Lever Brothers (Limited) v. Nannucci (Limited) was heard. The respondents manufactured and sold a certain soap which applicants allege is packed in a way to make it a colourable imitation of their trade label registered for Sunlight soap in the colony. Mr. Nannucci, for the defence, said it was not the intention of the company, of which he was managing director, to replenish the stock of boxes in which the soap was packed. The wrapper round the soap was different from that used by the applicants and he claimed the right to the use of the word "Sunflower" applied to soap. The Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said the defendant was justified in using the word "Sunflower," but the word being so much like "sunlight" should have deterred him from imitating Sunlight soap in any other respect. There was no reason why the Sunflower wrapper should begin with "Why does" in the same way as the Sunlight wrapper did, but there would not be much difficulty in altering the wrapper so as to make it perfectly legal and justifiable. An interdict was granted restraining the respondents from putting up soap in like manner to applicants and using the wrapper complained of, respondents to pay costs.

**THE PLAGUE SCARE.**—Cape Town breathes freely again. There is no immediate prospect of the plague spreading, telegraphs the Government official on the spot, and no deaths have taken place since the disease came under expert care, Yersin's anti-plague serum having, it is reported, proved satisfactory. In all twelve natives contracted plague of these four succumbed. Some four square miles of territory is subject to the most stringent quarantine regulation, but the officials can only speak theoretically as to the origin of the plague in the colony, although the labour-dépôt at Madder River is considered the most likely source. Plague, or even symptoms of any disease in that direction over which a doubt exists, must be reported. Notices have been issued throughout the colony drawing attention to the fact, and the many municipalities are discussing what steps to take and how to enforce the necessary precautions. The Municipality of the metropolis could not decide on any direct course of action, but voted 100% for whitewashing-purposes. Unfortunately there is not much room for doubt that if the scourge once enters the city all the whitewashing imaginable could have but little effect, certain portions of the town being in a very unsanitary condition.

**NATAL TRADE.**—Although the colony has been the scene of active military operations, both the imports and exports during 1899 showed an increase. The total value of the goods imported into the colony during the year was 5,359,259%, as compared with 5,326,274% in 1898. The exports from the United Kingdom declined from 3,712,580% in 1898 to 3,494,256% in 1899, while "other European countries," the United States, India, Australia, and Cape Colony all show increased imports. The leading imports of pharmaceutical interest were as follows:—

	1899	1898
Drugs and chemicals ... ..	119,456%.	117,331%.
Condensed milk ... ..	74,420%.	75,349%.
Oil, paraffin (gals.) ... ..	1,424,417	1,392,405
Oil, linseed (gals.) ... ..	48,049	55,131
Oil, lard (gals.) ... ..	13,025	2,877
Oil, other kinds (gals.) ... ..	485,651	593,860
Painters' colours ... ..	24,637%.	22,559%.
Perfumery ... ..	7,567%.	1,857%.
Oilmen's stores ... ..	61,857%.	86,459%.
Quicksilver (lbs.) ... ..	3,775	454
Saltpetre (cwt.) ... ..	192	268
Sheep-dip ... ..	6,852%.	19,352%.
Soaps of all kinds ... ..	35,927%.	41,753%.
Spices ... ..	3,857%.	3,277%.
Tar, pitch, rosin ... ..	3,038%.	4,368%.

The chief article of export with which we are concerned is arrowroot, 29,984 lbs. (397%) of which was shipped from the colony, as against 47,376 lbs. (311%) in 1898. The higher prices obtained last year ought to stimulate production. The exports of tea show that it is an important and growing industry, 217,301 lbs. (8,296%) having been shipped in 1899, as compared with 84,837 lbs. (2,784%) in 1898. The output of tea from the estates in 1898 was estimated at 300,000 to 400,000 lbs., and the total acres under tea at between 25,000 acres and 30,000 acres. The total of colonial goods exported amounted to 1,122,365%, and non-colonial goods 1,905,298%, against 1,004,034% and 1,180,603% respectively in 1898. The goods sent to Natal "in transit" for the Transvaal last year included drugs and chemicals valued at 35,394%, against 16,293% in 1898, perfumery 1,606% against 364%, saccharin 218% against 156%, and common soap 7,664% against 2,703%. The imports of potassium cyanide "in transit" for the Transvaal fell from 13,874% in 1898 to 9,464% in 1899. This was to be expected, as all the mines in the Transvaal have practically ceased working. Great Britain had only a small share of the cyanide trade, the bulk of it being German.

**COMMERCIAL GLUCOSE**—In Mr. Coupland's paper for "Galacin" read "Gallisin." Mr. Coupland said that the composition of this article is doubtful, but that Allen, referring to one method by which it had been prepared, said it was possible that maltose and dextrin may exist in the product.



## East Indian News.

BOMBAY, December 1.

**MYSORE SANDALWOOD.**—The total output of sandalwood in the Mysore State forests for the past year at the various *Kothis* amounts to about 1,330 tons, roughly valued at 6½ lakhs of rupees.

**THE THEFTS BY COMPOUNDERS.**—At the resumed hearing of this case, on December 5, further evidence of the complicity of those concerned in the recent thefts at Messrs. Treacher's was tendered, and the case again adjourned.

**THE GOVERNMENT** are inviting tenders, amongst other items, for 200 lbs. chloroform (D., F. & Co. or Macfarlane's), 200 lbs. chloral hydrate, and 200 lbs. rad. jalapæ. They are also purchasers of 50 lbs. rad. ipecac. pulv. in the bazaar.

**OPIUM IN INDIA.**—In spite of the chaos prevailing in China, the opium-revenue in India is proving to be considerably more than was expected. According to the latest returns, which include the Bengal sales up to date and the Bombay realisations to the end of October, the total revenue since the beginning of the financial year came to near 485 lakhs of rupees, which is no less than 50¼ lakhs in excess of the estimates of last March.

**ILLICIT DEALING IN OPIUM AND GANJA IN RANGOON.**—A consignment of forty balls of opium, weighing 3,200 tolas, was seized by the station-master at the Phayre Street Railway Station, Rangoon, the other day. The opium was consigned to a Chinaman from Pynmana. The consignee did not turn up to take delivery. The Magistrate of the Eastern Division passed orders recently in the case in which three Chittagonians were charged with being in possession of 2,000 tolas of ganja. They were found guilty, and were sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment each and to pay a fine of 50r.

**CEYLON COMMERCE.**—The report of the Acting Principal Collector of Customs for the six months from January to June, 1900, is another record of progress, the value of the trade of the colony being estimated at 103,237,432r., imports amounting to 55,201,493r. and exports to 48,035,939r., the value of imports exceeding the value of exports by 7,165,554r. The exports, with which we are chiefly concerned, show that the quantity of cinchona exported fell from 482,196 lbs. in 1899 to 325,833 lbs. in 1900, and cocoa from 26,043 cwt. to 17,182 cwt. There was also a decrease of 285 cwt. in the shipments of cinnamon, the quantity shipped being 16,762 cwt. in 1900, against 17,047 cwt. in 1899.

**ECONOMIC PRODUCTS.**—The Government of India has recently established an Economic and Art Department to be located at the Museum of India, Calcutta. Dr. George Watt, C.I.E., F.L.S., is in charge, and Mr. David Hooper, F.I.C., F.L.S., has been appointed Curator. Dr. Watt's work during many years in the development of the economic resources of India, of which his "Dictionary of Economic Products of India" was an outcome, is a guarantee that results of value in materia medica and in more extensive departments of commerce may be looked for. Mr. Hooper is well known as the author of many valuable researches in the same field, and as part author of "Pharmacographia Indica." Some indication of the methods in which the specimens are made to speak for themselves in the re-arrangement of the museums is gleaned from a report which Dr. Watt has presented to the Government on the Economic Section, in the course of which he mentions that a correspondence was instituted by the Imperial Institute at the request of Messrs. Rowntree & Co. into the subject of edible gums, and a very fine set of commercial samples of the chief gums of this class has been brought to the museum from Burma, Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the Punjab, and the Central Provinces. The gums collected were as follows:—*Acacia arabica*, *A. Catechu*, *A. Jacquemontii*, *A. modesta*, *Anacissus latifolia*, *Cochlospermum Gossypium*, *Mangifera indica*, and *Moringa pterygosperma*. Speaking of kino, he says:—"Over the specimens of kino a stem of *Pterocarpus Marsupium* has similarly been fixed, showing the excoriated bark (something like the appearance of a fish-bone) with the receiving apparatus into which the fluid is collected in Malabar."

## Colonial and Foreign News.

**AT KASERN**, near Salsburg (Austria), works are in course of erection for manufacture of lithoponc. Lithopone is a substitute for white-lead and zinc-white, and up to the present has been exclusively produced by a convention of fourteen German manufacturers.

**THE WRONG COLOUR.**—A New York soubrette—Miss Lillie Verona—has begun an action for 1,000l. damages against a New York druggist. She alleges that the defendant sold her henna to dye her red hair auburn, but instead her ruby locks were changed to a vivid green.

**QUICKSILVER-PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES.**—According to the report of the U.S. Geological Survey the production of quicksilver during 1899 amounted to 30,454 bottles (\$1,452,745), against 31,092 bottles (\$1,188,627) in 1898, showing a falling-off of 638 bottles, but a rise in value of \$264,118. January began with quotations at San Francisco at \$42 per bottle for home consumption and \$37.50 for export, but at the end of the year the prices stood at \$51.50 and \$47 per bottle respectively. This is the highest price that has been attained since 1890. During the last twenty years quicksilver in the United States was exclusively obtained from California (except in 1887, when sixty-five bottles were produced in Oregon), but during the past year the Texas State has also contributed 1,000 bottles. The new district is situated about sixty-eight miles direct south of the station Marathon on the Southern Pacific Railway in the Brewster district, and is about four miles long and two miles broad. The output of the Californian mines was divided as follows:—New Almaden 4,435 bottles, New Idria 4,780, Redington 882, Sulphur Bank 336, Great Western 1,545, Napa Consolidated 5,850, Great Eastern 2,119, Mirabel 543, Aetna 3,800, Altoona 3,076, and Abbott 500 bottles. The whole production of California during the last fifty years amounted to 1,831,022 bottles, or an average of 36,620 bottles per annum. The New Almaden mine produced more than half this. The higher prices ruling last year resulted in the reopening of several old mines, as well as the formation of a number of new companies. Everything points to an increase in the production during the current year. Last year 16,517 bottles were exported (\$609,586), against 12,830 bottles (\$440,587) in 1898 and 13,173 bottles (\$394,549) in 1897.

**WURTEMBERG CHEMICAL-TRADE.**—The trade in drugs and chemicals achieved last year the most favourable results for the past ten years, says Dr. F. Rosc, H.M. Consul at Stuttgart. The demand greatly increased, and prices rose with few exceptions. Sulphuric and hydrochloric acids, soda and potash "sold easily," the two acids, advancing in price. Linseed oil and tallow, the raw materials for the manufacture of soap, rose about 25 per cent. in price, soap itself only about 5 to 7 per cent. The export to foreign countries is hampered by the high duties levied by Germany on the raw materials, and a reduction is being advocated. The soap-manufacturers in Central Germany have formed a trust, and upon the refusal of the Württemberg manufacturers to join, boycotted them sharply and caused much trouble by cutting off the supply of palm oil. The prohibition of the export of carbolic acid from the United Kingdom to Germany during the Transvaal war seriously affected the makers of phenol and its derivatives. This prohibition, however, was instrumental in giving a great impetus to the endeavours of German chemists to discover a cheap working method of preparing phenol synthetically from benzol, thus rendering Germany independent of the export from the United Kingdom. In February a beginning was made, and 20 tons of synthetic phenol was placed upon the market and immediately sold by the chemical-works at Höchst-on-the-Main; other works are erecting, or have already erected, plant for this purpose. In France, a chemical-factory at Lyons began to manufacture synthetic phenol for their own use. The processes used are two in number, the cost of production being the same in both cases—(1) from benzol-sulphonic acid by means of caustic potash or caustic soda; (2) from amido-benzol (aniline) by means of nitrous acid. It is still being synthetically manufactured in spite of the fact that the prohibition has now been withdrawn.



## Trade Notes.

**MESSRS. THOMAS KERFOOT & Co.**, as makers of chlorodyne, pepsine, and bismuth tablets, intimate that they will defend an action which may be taken against their customers who sell these tablets.<sup>1</sup> This appears to have reference to the advertisement of Messrs. Kilby Pears & Son in last week's *C. & D.*

**SOAPMAKERS' REQUIREMENTS.**—Messrs. S. Claber & Co. (Limited), 30-34 Faulkner Street, Manchester, have just issued a new edition of their catalogue of soapmakers' machinery and requirements. The firm have been appointed agents for Savory's automatic soap-stamper, one of the latest and most improved stampers made. The soap-machinery listed is all of British manufacture.

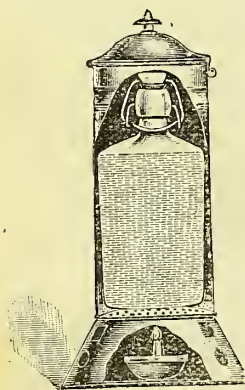
**TO INAUGURATE THE NEW CENTURY.**—Messrs. Ayrton & Saunders, of Liverpool, are offering three prizes—the first consisting of a 100% complete shop, the second a 50% window-enclosure or other fittings, and the other a 25% window-enclosure or showcases—to the customers who send in from January 1 to December 22, 1901, the largest number of orders not less than 1% in value, excluding patents and drugs. The conditions are specified in their advertisement in this issue.

**"NEW TERMS FOR THE NEW CENTURY."**—This is a phrase coined by Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co., of Leeds, in respect to a protective scheme devised on behalf of retailers of Yorkshire Relish. Prices of this popular article have been cut lately, so Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co. fix the minimum prices (which are still cut rates), and offer bonuses varying from 2½ to 3½ per cent. on all relish bought direct from them during 1901. They give the opportunity to small purchasers as well as large. Full particulars of the scheme will be found in the firm's advertisement.

**"THREE SYRUPS."**—Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., have brought out a new tabloid in which the active constituents of Easton's syrup, Parrish's syrup, and compound syrup of hypophosphites are represented. This combination appears to be growing popular, and in presenting it in this particular form Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. provide a product that is stable under all conditions, and the dose is accurately apportioned. The tabloids are coated with sugar, and therefore present an agreeable lozenge form for administration; while the contents are readily assimilated owing to the perfect solubility of the product. The equivalent of 15 minims of Easton's syrup with 15 minims of the compound syrup of hypophosphites and 30 minims of compound syrup of phosphate of iron is combined in each "tabloid."

**A MILK-STERILISER.**—The effective sterilisation of milk having become an every-day necessity in the majority of households, the new steriliser introduced by Messrs. Southall

Brothers & Barclay (Limited), of Birmingham, is opportune. The style and simplicity of the apparatus will be seen from the accompanying illustration, and although apparently free from intricacy of construction, we are informed that the services of an eminent bacteriologist have been engaged upon its perfection for some time. The use of the steriliser needs no special knowledge on the part of its owner, nor does it require to be regulated by a thermometer. It is, as will be seen, capable of sterilising a larger quantity than usual, the bottle holding, perhaps, a pint of milk. The price is 6s. 6d., and full instructions for use are provided with each steriliser.



**LIQUORICE CONFECTIONERY.**—We have on a previous occasion called attention to the purity of the Pontefract cakes and other liquorice goods manufactured by Messrs. Hillabys (Limited). For this winter's trade there is an excellent combination of the liquorice lozenges with chlorodyne, which are put up in decorated zinc boxes suitable for

the waistcoat pocket. These should sell readily, as they are pleasant to taste, and besides allaying cough make the voice clear. Liquorice pellets are put up in somewhat similar style. Subscribers who have not seen these would do well to write to the company at the Lion Works, Pontefract, for samples, for they are widely advertised to the public.

**TOILET-POWDER AS FOOD.**—We reported during the sieges of Mafeking and Ladysmith that the chemists of these towns found quite a run upon their violet and other toilet-powders. We have just seen a letter written by a member of the Cape police who was in Mafeking during the siege, and one day when he was in Messrs. Lennon's drug-store there, he was attracted by the tins of Gosnell's cherry-blossom toilet-powder, which he noticed was guaranteed Gosnell's, to be pure starch delicately perfumed. He bought all he could of the tins, paying 3s. 6d. each for the 1s. ones, and he says in the letter that "although he does not pretend that it makes a very enticing dish it was exceedingly preferable to the blanc-mange made from violet powder, because it made him think of cherry tarts." The dish agreed with him better than violet powder.

## Trade-Marks Applied for.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1s., obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 12, 1900.)

Sketch of a daisy and the word "DAISY"; for goods in Class 3. By Daisy (Limited), Leeds. 233,511.

"OZONAL" (no claim for "Ozono"); for chemicals. By H. V. Dodd, 2 St. Andrew's Pavement, Stamford Hill, N. 233,817.

"ROBORIN" (no claim for "Robor"); for digestive and pharmaceutical preparations in Class 3. By the Deutsche Roborin-Werke Commandit-Gesellschaft M. Dietrich & Co., 139 Friedrich Strasse, Berlin. 233,862.

"GLYCOBROM" (no claim for "Glyco") and "KOLAX"; for chemicals. By Fletcher, Fletcher & Co. (Limited), 469 Holloway Road, N. 234,081 and 234,201.

Combination of devices (the essential particular) representing three bees in a ring; for raw gum. By J. Hallon Hall & Co., 14 Mincing Lane, E.C. 233,202.

"SPARKLETS"; for surgical instruments. By Aëratons (Limited) 56 Broad Street Avenue, E.C. 233,977.

"FLAKERINE" (no claim for "Flake"); for cattle-feed. By the Cardiff Malting Company (Limited), East Moors, Cardiff. 233,584.

"HEDAKENE" (no claim for "Headache"); for aerated and other waters. By Hedakene (Limited), 73 Station Street, Birmingham. 233,460.

"DEODITE"; for a detergent. By Gillman & Spencer (Limited) 21 St. George's Road, Southwark, E.C. 233,661.

"SOPENE" (no claim for "Soap"); for soap-powder. By W. Hollis & Co. (Limited), 102 Bishopsgate Street Without, E.C. 233,919.

"KHARKI"; for toilet-soap. By W. Anderson, 62 Buchanan Street, Glasgow. 228,755.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," December 19, 1900.)

"CASTLETYNE"; for chemicals, minerals, gums, inks, sealing-wax furniture and metal polishes, &c. By the Castle Brand Company, Portland Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 232,405, 232,406, 232,407, 232,409, and 232,519.

"TOLO"; for chemicals. By H. Mack, 31 Kohlhasse, Ulm a/D. 232,841.

"LINSOL" (Linimentum Solidum). The essential particular is the word "Linsol." For liniments. By John Bell & Co., 225 Oxford Street, W.

Facsimile signature; for a medicine. By John A. Smith, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.A. 234,116.



## Legal Reports.

### High Court Case.

CUNNINGHAM v. "DAILY EXPRESS."

THE cross-examination of the plaintiff in this case proved to be very interesting. In the course of it he said a meeting was held in May last in order to discuss the formation of a company to push his cures and those of Mr. Dean. Mr. Godley, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Eykyn were present. The witness proposed that offices should be started in the West-end to conduct the commercial side of the business, and consulting-rooms opened for himself. He did not say that the business would be carried on on the lines of the Viavi Company, with whose methods he was well acquainted. He might have said that the lady who ran the Viavi Company in England was making a clear profit of 2,000*l.* a year. The gentlemen present at the meeting afterwards wrote to say that they were not prepared to find the money to finance the proposed company. The witness used the same fluid in the cure of cancer as in cases of consumption.

On Friday, December 21, when the hearing was resumed, Dr. H. M. Parker and Dr. Milligan gave evidence on behalf of the defendants, in respect to a cured patient's case, which was not consumption of the lungs, but disease of the pleura. Professor Sydney Martin and Dr. Johnson gave evidence in respect to another case, when the jury intervened, and stated that they were all agreed that the verdict should be for the defendants. Mr. Justice Wills then gave judgment for the defendants.

### County Court Case.

COMMITTED.

IN the City of London Court on December 21, the case of Howard & Jones v. Kennedy was heard, in which the plaintiffs sought to have the defendant, who is in business at 159 Kingsland Road, committed for non-payment of 5*l.* 13*s.* for goods supplied. The plaintiffs' representative said defendant was described in the Directory as a wholesale druggists' sundriesman and perfumer, as well as a maker of babies' sanitary bottles. It was not a case of being unable to pay the debt, as the defendant had said he would not pay. The defendant did a very good business. The defendant said he was only a packer for wholesale chemists. He was not a sundriesman himself, and was only the manager of the business which he carried on. The Deputy Judge said he was not going to believe that, when the defendant described himself in the Directory as a sundriesman. The Deputy Judge said he was satisfied that the defendant had had the means with which to pay the debt, and he committed him for twenty days.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

ZINC OINTMENT.

AT Blaenavon Police Court last week, Mr. Edwin Podfield, a local tradesman, was summoned for selling zinc ointment composed of about 8 per cent. of oxide of zinc and 92 per cent. common lard instead of 15 per cent. of oxide of zinc and 85 per cent. of benzoated lard.

Defendant said he had no warranty with the ointment, but it had been guaranteed as genuine by the traveller from whom he bought it. He had had a letter from the manufacturers stating that they could only account for the composition by the fact that it was made in large vats, and should be kept constantly stirred. They presumed that a workman had allowed the ointment to cool during the manufacturing process. A fine of 40*s.* was imposed.

## Bankruptcy Report.

Re KNIGHT, HILL & Co., Billiter House, E.C., Chemical merchants, &c.

AT the London Bankruptcy Court on December 22, Frederick Johnson Knight, trading as above, was publicly examined. His accounts showed liabilities 14,465*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, and assets 18*l.* 5*s.* In the course of his evidence the debtor stated that in 1878

when carrying on business with his brother and another person as Knight & Son, the firm failed. A dividend of 4*s.* 6*d.* in the pound was paid on liabilities of 28,748*l.*, and he obtained a discharge from the proceedings. During the following year he borrowed 2,000*l.* and entered into partnership in a business which they carried on at 18 Billiter Street, and which was removed in 1887 to Billiter House. His partner died in 1888, and witness, having paid 500*l.* to the executors, took over the business, which he had continued until the present failure. He attributed his insolvency to his liability on bills accepted for the accommodation of a chemical company which had gone into liquidation. The examination was concluded.

## Gazette.

### Partnerships Dissolved.

HAMILTON, W. M., and IZARD, H. E., under the style of Hamilton & Izard, Patricroft, physicians and surgeons.

ROBBINS, J., and INGLIS, T., under the style of Dr. J. Robbins, Stratford Green, and Chobham Road, Stratford, E., surgeons and medical practitioners.

TIBBLES, W., and GRANT, C. W., under the style of Tibbles & Grant, Nottingham, surgeons.

### The Bankruptcy Acts 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

LETT, Richard Alfred, Wakefield, physician.

## New Companies & Company News.

PRIDEAUX'S PURE CASEIN AND LIFE FOOD COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 1,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To manufacture, sell, import, and export milk, casein, foodstuffs, and products for human consumption and otherwise. The first directors are C. Prideaux, G. E. Prideaux, and R. B. Horne. Qualification, 100*l.* Registered office, Factory House, Motcombe, Dorset.

RANDALL SLOPER & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of a mineral-water manufacturer carried on by Geo. N. R. Sloper, under the style of "Randall Sloper & Co." at Lansdowne Hill, Southampton, and to carry on the business of mineral-water manufacturers, syphon, gasogene, bottle, jar, and receptacle makers, &c. The first directors are G. N. R. Sloper and W. C. Kenny.

ZINC OXIDE SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement between Fry, Everitt, & Co., of the first part, the Smelting Corporation (Limited), of the second part, and this company of the third part, and to carry on the business of chemists, electrolyzers, engineers, metallurgists, ore-producers, metal workers and merchants, &c. Table "A" mainly applies.

ATMOSPHERIC GAS COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire from J. E. Whiting and J. Gordon certain patents for improvements in the method of and apparatus for manufacturing an improved gas, &c., and to carry on the business, amongst others, of chemists, druggists, and drysalers. The first directors are J. E. Whiting, W. B. Mason, and W. S. Sykes. Qualification, 250 shares.

UNION BLACKING AND STAIN COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by Pearson, Bennion & Kelly at Leicester, and to carry on the business of blacking, dressing, and polish manufacturers, and dye, ink, oil, colour and varnish, and chemical manufacturers, &c. The first directors are J. L. Kelly, C. Bennion, J. H. Connor, and E. P. Hurd (or his nominee). The two last-named are "American directors."

NEW BIRMINGHAM AERATED WATER COMPANY (BARRETT & COLLIS) (LIMITED).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business formerly carried on by the Birmingham Aerated Water Company (Barrett & Co.), Limited, to adopt an agreement with S. B. Collis, and to carry on the business of mineral-water manufacturers and merchants, bottle and stopper makers, &c. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 80 Coleman Street, E.C.

HALL'S GLUE AND BONE WORKS (LIMITED).—Capital 30,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares (15,000 preference). Objects: To take over the business of a bone-boiler, glue, size, and artificial fertiliser manufacturer, &c., carried on by B. Hall at Trent Side Bone Works, Meadow Lane, Nottingham, and to carry on the business of manufacturing chemists, &c. The first directors are:—Sir J. Turney (chairman), B. Hall, and J. N. Derbyshire. Qualification, 500



shares. Remuneration 100*l.* each per annum, and 100*l.* extra for the chairman. Registered office, Trent Side Works, Meadow Lane, Nottingham.

ANGLO-AMERICAN ARTIFICIAL TEETH AND DENTAL ASSOCIATION (LIMITED).—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of dentists, manufacturers of and dealers in false teeth and dental instruments, &c. The first subscribers are:—V. D. de Wet, 81 Cannon Street, E.C., clerk; T. Thomson, 18 Electric Mansions, Brixton, gentleman; A. J. Brisley, 19 Electric Mansions, Brixton, surveyor; W. S. Wyatt, 62 Hinton Road, Camberwell, gentleman; G. Tanner, 32 Wynne Road, Brixton, S.W., schoolmaster; S. Hall, 50 Kellett Road, Brixton, S.W., gentleman; and C. G. Glanville, 42 Listria Park, Stoke Newington, N., agent.

MESSRS. HARDING, HULL (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of dentists, &c., chemists, druggists, opticians, manufacturers of photographic and other apparatus and materials, &c. The first subscribers are:—B. Brooks, Hull Royal Infirmary, Holly Bank, Sutton-on-Hull, secretary; W. H. Harding, Lidgett Park Road, Roundhay, Leeds, traveller; Miss H. Harding, 64 Lister Street, Hull; Miss A. L. Harding, 64 Lister Street, Hull; Miss M. Harding, 64 Lister Street, Hull; Miss K. E. Harding, 64 Lister Street, Hull; and H. E. Laurence, 64 Lister Street, Hull, surgeon-dentist.

PATON'S MILNE OINTMENT COMPANY (LIMITED).—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To manufacture and sell Paton's Milne ointment for the cure of eczema and all other skin diseases. The first subscribers are:—Euphemia Elder or Paton, 148 Norfolk Street, Glasgow; Duncan Graham, 74 Shields Road, Glasgow, clerk; John Paton, Hollygate, Uddington, clerk; Patrick Waller Hunter, 398 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, chemist; John Algie, 1 Langside Road, Glasgow, clerk; Wm. Hunter, 398 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, journalist; George Paton, 148 Norfolk Street, Glasgow, clerk. Registered office, 148 Norfolk Street, Glasgow.

WILLIAM BARR & Co. (LIMITED).—Registered at Edinburgh Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of manufacturing chemists, oil and soap merchants, and wholesale druggists, and the business of grocers, drapers, and general merchants, both carried on by William Barr, at Bellshill, Lanark, and the business of apothecaries and dispensing chemists and druggists carried on by the Western Apothecaries' Company (Limited). The first subscribers are:—William Barr, Bellshill, Lanark, manufacturing chemist; Mrs. C. Barr, James McKay, chemist; John Fulton, salesman; Thomas Smith, salesman; Alexander Lee, warehouseman; and James E. Lee, grocer—all of Bellshill.

STURTON & SONS (LIMITED).—Capital 14,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of chemists, druggists, and drysalters, carried on at Bridge Street, Peterborough, as Sturton & Sons, and to carry on the business of chemists, grocers, drapers, ironmongers, watchmakers, jewellers, &c. The first subscribers are:—J. G. Sturton, 42 Bridge Street, Peterborough, chemist; F. Sturton, Thorpe Road, Peterborough, chemist; F. A. Sturton, 42 Bridge Street, Peterborough, chemist; E. A. V. Sturton, 48 Narrow Street, Peterborough, ironmonger; G. Keeble, Westwood, Peterborough, merchant; J. Y. Keeble, Thorpe Road, Peterborough, merchant; Mrs. E. Sturton, Thorpe Road, Peterborough; and Mrs. F. L. Sturton, Bridge Street, Peterborough. The number of directors is not to be less than four nor more than seven. The first are G. Keeble, J. G. Sturton, F. Sturton, and F. A. Sturton, each of whom may retain office so long as he holds 200*l.* shares (twenty shares in the case of G. Keeble). Registered office, 42 Bridge Street, Peterborough.

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD (LIMITED).—Capital 36,500*l.*, in 10*l.* shares (500 preference). Objects: To acquire the business of manufacturing chemists and chemical-manufacturers carried on at Lincoln as Tomlinson & Hayward, to adopt an agreement between Annie E. F. Hayward and C. Scorer of the first part, the said Annie E. F. Hayward of the second part, Herbert C. Wilson of the third part, and the company of the fourth part, and to carry on the business of manufacturing chemists, chemical manufacturers, druggists, drysalters, oil and colourmen, manufacturers of photographic, electrical, surgical and scientific apparatus and materials, &c. The first subscribers are:—Mrs. A. E. F. Hayward, Brammont Lodge, Lincoln; C. Scorer, Combe Hurst, Lincoln, solicitor; C. Brook, 4 Pottergate, Lincoln, surgeon; J. Evens, Burton, Lincoln, farmer; H. C. Wilson, 130 West Parade, Lincoln, chemical manufacturer; G. H. Hayward, 69 Monks Road, Lincoln, clerk; C. Pepperdine, 30 Tennyson Road, Lincoln, accountant; and F. Day, Tennyson Street, Lincoln, worksmanger. The number of directors is not to be less than two nor more than five. The first are Charles Brook, John Evens, Charles Scorer, and Herbert C. Wilson. Qualification 500*l.* Remuneration 250*l.* per annum. Registered office, Mount Street Works, Lincoln. [We understand that this conversion is for family reasons, and that new factories are being built to meet the extension of business and to provide for the demand for specialties packed in chemists' own names.]

VINOLIA COMPANY (LIMITED).—The report of the directors for the year ended August 31 states that the net profit for the year was 21,483*l.*, which, with the balance brought forward (2,930*l.*), made a total 24,419*l.* The directors have applied in payment of the dividend on the preference shares at 5 per cent. from date of allotment to August 31 6,971*l.*, and recommend a dividend on the ordinary shares from date of conversion to August 31 at 8 per cent. per annum, 12,083*l.*; placing to reserve 5,000*l.*, and leaving 365*l.* to be carried forward. The sales for the year are the largest they ever have been in any one year, and the household soap lately introduced promises to be a success. Substantial additions have been made to plant and machinery during the year. The Vinolia War Fund reached 11,673*l.* (10,000*l.* of which was handed over to the Lord Mayor's Fund during the year), the whole being borne by the chairman.

## ANTIDIPSO.

(Extracted from this week's "Truth.")

A GENTLEMAN recently communicated to me some information regarding a quack advertisement which is of interest in more ways than one. The advertisement in question was one emanating from the man Pointing, whose name and numerous *aliases* will be familiar to many of my readers. In addition to his "toilet-specialties," remedies for obesity, and other humbug, Pointing has lately advertised a cure for drunkenness, assuming for this purpose the name of "The Ward Chemical Company." In response to inquiries for this precious preparation he forwards a booklet with the engaging title, "Bright Beams of Hope," containing, among many pages of quack flummery, a circumstantial narrative of the discovery of the remedy by an English physician in South America, the communication of the facts to "this company" (*alias* Pointing), and the despatch by "this company" of an agent who obtained the secret of the preparation from the tribe of Indians who had hitherto possessed the sole rights of it.

The South American Indians' remedy for inebriety is put up and sold by Pointing under the suggestive name of "Antidipso." With his advertisements of it, Pointing issues the following certificate:—

12 Knowle Road, Brixton, London,

May 6, 1899.

I have examined the Antidipso (two powders) of the Ward Chemical Company, and find nothing of injurious or undesirable nature in the preparation. Antidipso possesses marked therapeutic action, and may be recommended.

(Signed) A. B. GRIFFITHS, Ph.D., F.R.S.E.,

Principal of the Brixton School of Pharmacy.

Having received this testimonial with Pointing's circular, my informant had the curiosity to procure a packet of "Antidipso," and himself submitted it to Dr. Griffiths for analysis. The report showed that there was no mystery about the composition, the most significant point being that the stuff would be suitable for use in "certain foods (infants)," &c. A cure for dipsomania suitable for use in nursery feeding-bottles seems to have everything to recommend it save utility. It certainly justifies Dr. Griffiths' previous recommendation of the stuff as containing "nothing injurious or undesirable." The investigator, however, was not satisfied, and asked for a complete analysis, reminding Dr. Griffiths that he had had the preparation under his notice before. The analyst then replied that he had never had the powder in his hands before. In other words, the stuff which Pointing is selling is not the stuff referred to in the testimonial by means of which he sells it. I commend this fact to the attention of the many people who are induced to buy proprietary drugs or other preparations on the faith of analysts' reports.

This man Pointing, having been turned out of Regent House, is now established at another address in Regent Street, where he is carrying on a variety of swindles more or less like the above. There is every reason to suppose that he is doing a very big business, and his dupes—most of them women—must be numbered by thousands. (Even "Antidipso," the great Indian remedy, is got up specially for the benefit of women; who are advised to buy the powder and introduce it furtively into the beverage of the male relative who is supposed to stand in need of the cure.) As was shown years ago in *Truth*, the man is an utterly unscrupulous scoundrel, and it is high time that the newspapers ceased to publish his advertisements.

ON BOXING DAY an urchin asked a suburban chemist for a strong seidlitz-powder for "after Christmas." The one given him was marked "Extra strong, stronger than B.P." "Oh!" said the urchin—"stronger than Baden-Powell!" [This happened this week.—EDITOR.]



## Marriage.

**READ—SLATER.**—On December 22, at the College Chapel, Richmond, S.W., by the Rev. Fleming Williams, Lawrence J. Read, of 20 Gresham Road, Brixton, S.W., to Gertrude Pelham Slater, of 21 Cardigan Road, Richmond.

## Deaths.

**ARNOLD.**—At Aberavon, on December 18, Mrs. Sarah Arnold, widow of the late Mr. Alfred Arnold, chemist and druggist. Aged 81.

**CONNOCHIE.**—At 47 High Street, Selkirk, on December 25, Mr. William Dixon Connochie, M.R.C.V.S. Aged 67.

**HARDY.**—At "Kincardine," Southampton Road, Salisbury, on December 20, Mr. Robert Ebenezer Hardy, chemist and druggist. Aged 64. Mr. Hardy had been in business for about forty years, and was respected and honoured by all with whom he had come into contact, either in his long trading career or in private life.

**PARKINSON.**—At Burnley, suddenly, on December 14, Mr. A. W. Parkinson, of the firm of Parkinson & Sons, wholesale druggists and drysalers, Burnley. Aged 44.

**PEARS.**—On December 22, at 16 Brunswick Road, Hove, Sarah Augusta, the beloved wife of Mr. Kilby Pears, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 59.

**PIRIE.**—At 15 Ardmillan Terrace, Edinburgh, on December 19, Mr. James Metcalfe Pirie, chemist and druggist, 123 Gilmore Place. Aged 31.

**SICK.**—The committee occupied in the compilation of the German Homœopathic Pharmacopœia to be published shortly by the German Apotheker Society has sustained a heavy loss in the death of one of its most prominent members, Dr. Paul von Sick, which occurred on December 16, at Stuttgart.

**TURNER.**—Suddenly, at his residence, 20 Bury Street, London, W.C., on December 20, Mr. Charles Ernest Turner, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 69. Mr. Turner who was the only son of Captain Charles E. Turner, formerly of the 44th Regiment of Foot, was born at Egton, Herefordshire, on May 24, 1831. At the age of 17 he was apprenticed to Mr. Gilthes, of Leominster, and after his apprenticeship had expired, he entered Messrs. Corbyn & Stacey's employment as assistant in their High Holborn pharmacy, and later was an assistant to Messrs. Butler & Crisp in their Cheap-side place. He passed the



Major in 1857, and started business on his own account a year after at 63 Great Russell Street, W.C., where he remained until 1881, when he removed to the premises at which he died. Mr. Turner had thus been in business just over forty two years. He had been connected with the Pharmaceutical Society during his business career, and was Divisional Secretary for Bloomsbury. For many years he had been a member of the Board of Works for the St. Giles's district as well as of the Vestry of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, and St. George's, Bloomsbury. From these offices he retired on the formation of the Borough Councils last month. For a number of years he was churchwarden at the parish church, St. George's, Bloomsbury, as well as a member of the Church Council up to the time of his death, and the governor of the national school at Bury Street. He held several other local offices. Mr. Turner leaves a widow and two sons and a daughter. The eldest son is a medical practitioner at Kingston-on-Thames, and the youngest son, Mr. John S.

Turner, carries on the business at 20 Bury Street. The funeral took place on Monday, December 24, at Kensal Green Cemetery, the first portion of the service being read at St. George's, Bloomsbury.

**WHITEHEAD.**—At Greenheys, Manchester, on December 18, John Warburton Whitehead. Aged 50. Although a comparatively young man, Mr. Whitehead was in business as a chemist and druggist before the passing of the Pharmacy Act, 1868. He was then keeping open shop in Tamworth Street, Hulme. In 1881 he embarked in partnership with Mr. Charles Swinn, pharmaceutical chemist, as wholesale bottle-merchant. After a few years the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Swinn continuing the chemist business and Mr. Whitehead kept on with the bottle-trade, which developed considerably. Not only did he embark on wine-bottling, but started a toilet-soap business. These combined trades he carried on up to the time of his death, and amassed a considerable fortune. Mr. Swinn is one of the executors under Mr. Whitehead's will.

## Recent Will.

**SALAMON.**—Mr. Nahum Salamon, of 8 Belsize Park Gardens, and of the Saccharin Corporation (Limited), 165 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. who died on November 23 last, appointed as executors of his will his sons Alfred Gordon Salamon and Isidor Gordon Salamon, and his daughter Lillian May Salamon; and he bequeathed to his said daughter 300*l.* and the income of a sum of 10,000*l.*; to his daughters Florence Amelia Desires and Edith Grace Robertson, and his said son Isidor, 1,500*l.* each; to his son David Alroy Salamon 500*l.*, and to his said son Alfred, who, at his own request, is omitted from this bequest, various pieces of plate. The testator bequeathed to his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Laura Salamon, the glass which formerly belonged to the Emperor Napoleon III. and the Stoves plate which he brought from St. Cloud. Mr. Salamon's estate has been valued at 14,622*l.* gross, and 13,376*l.* net.

## Personalities.

**MR. E. W. GRIGGS**, chemist, High Street, Haverhill, has been elected Chairman of the Haverhill School Board.

**ALL PERSONS** having claims against the late Mr. James Metcalfe Pirie, chemist, 123 Gilmore Place, Edinburgh, are requested to lodge the same with Messrs. Sang & Moffat, S.S.C. 29 Queen Street, Edinburgh, before January 5, 1901.

**MR. W. H. BATTLE**, F.R.C.S. (England), third son of the late Alderman J. R. Battle, of Messrs. Battle, Son & Maltby, wholesale chemists and druggists, High Street, Lincoln, where his brother is city treasurer, has been elected a surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital. Mr. Battle, who was educated at Lincoln Grammar School, is a former Hunterian Professor of Pathology and Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons (England). He married in 1892 Miss A. M. Vulliamy, cousin of Mr. George Meredith, the novelist.

"THERE IS A FACTORY in the South of London where sufficient poison is made every day to kill every one of the 6,000,000 people that inhabit the great city. In this factory is manufactured pure anhydrous acid—a drug never placed on the market in its pure state." Thus far *Tit-Bits*. Curious that it did not add "one drop of it put on the end of a dog's tail kills a man in a minute."

**BAHAMA SPONGES.**—The export of sponge from the Bahamas during 1899 amounted to 1,124,585 lbs. (84,003*l.*), against 1,207,683 lbs. (97,512*l.*) in 1898—a falling-off in weight of 83,098 lbs., and 13,509*l.* less in value. The industry was injuriously affected by the hurricane in August last year, which ravaged the north end of the island of Andros and some other islands, wrecking and destroying the vessels engaged at the work and causing an unprecedented loss of life amongst the crews. Of the exports the United States took 48,448*l.*, against 49,958*l.* in 1898; the United Kingdom 14,671*l.*, against 17,308*l.*; France, Holland and Germany taking the remainder between them.



## "C. & D. Diary."

THE following are a few more of the appreciations which have been showered on us *à propos* of the DIARY for 1901:—

Squire's "Companion to the Pharmacopœia" is not better known or more useful as a companion or *vade mecum* to the student than THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY is to the qualified man. It is a little use for the chemist and druggist to try to satisfy his *clientèle* without using the one as it is for the student to satisfy his examiners without perusing the other. The DIARY is a model of smartness, and cannot fail to infect those who use it with this desirable quality.

JOSEPH J. MOONEY (Barnsbury, N.).

When in doubt what to buy, where to get it, and whose,

Just take up the C. & D. DIARY;

Its numerous pages of adverts, peruse,

There are plenty of offers from which you can choose—

Headache-powders, hair soles, to a pouch Syracuse.

There are pars. for instruction, and pars. to amuse.

Should inspector or analyst his power abuse,

And you're summoned—not sinning—your case you won't lose

If you study your C. & D. DIARY.

It's a treat—the new C. & D. DIARY.

JOHN J. WITTEN (Sunderland).

Your pithy and smart DIARÉE

Quite enthralls the poor C. and D.;

Within it he sees

Fair visions of ease

And wealth for the new centurée.

WALLACE E. CURTIS (Bournemouth).

Another year's rolled by, you see,

For once more comes the DIARY;

Replete with information trite

To cure all ills by day and night.

This little volume, to my mind,

Is quite a boon to all mankind.

In laying out your *l. s. d.*,

Consult our friend the DIARY.

—GEO. H. DUNMORE (Downton, Wilts.).

For fifty-two weeks in the year,

The C. & D. comes me to cheer.

It yearly costs but shillings ten,

Which many times come back again;

But when I read the DIARY,

I find "inside it's *l. s. d.*"

—FRANK L. SIMMONDS (Portland).

Both to the professional and commercial man it is indispensable. To the former it is a mine of information regarding doctors, hospitals, formulæ, &c., and to the latter it is quite essential to success.—W. G. DAY (Windsor).

On the threshold of this century, I pause and list awhile:

Have I THE CHEMISTS' DIARY, my leisure to beguile?

If not I'm no subscriber to the chemists' pioneer:

Ten shillings, that will do it—I'll have it now, no fear.

(*A week is supposed to elapse.*)

You ask me what I think of it? I'll tell you in trice,

For page by page I've read it, and it's very, very nice;

With information it's replete, for apps., assists., and chems.,

And cannot fail to interest from Moray Firth to Thames.

—S. J. NORTH (Grimsby).

A pharmacy without this book

Is like a "bike" without the tyres—

In fact, it is more useful than

The B.P., "Martindale," or "Squire's."

So, chemists, don't forget to be

Subscribers to the C. & D.

—W. M. WOODHOUSE (Ludlow, Salop).

The DIARY sent by the C. & D., for 1901, far surpasses any yet, and is most useful, not only for the chemist himself, but for anyone to refer to, and it ought to be the wish of all that the C. & D. may double its subscribers as soon as the new century commences.—GERTRUDE B. DOUTHWAITE (Newport, Salop).

Once more, O liberal C. & D.,

Thy glorious DIARY comes to hand;

A guide, a help, a joy to read,

'Tis known and used throughout the land.

—A. PEEL (Herne Hill, S.E.).

We think it very smart,

And also very useful;

We like the C. & D. DIARY

Because it's always truthful.

May your present nice edition

Help the buyer and the seller

To do each other good

By their adverts, to each other.

—RALPH & CLARKE (Hereford).

THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1901, is got up with good taste, and no other journal could excel it. For reference you will find all in it in connection with the drug-trade, and other information likewise.—L. CUNNINGHAM (Belfast).

The C. & D. DIARY of nineteen-nought-one,

Subscribers will say it is splendidly done;

For the matter that's in it is quite worth the fee

Of the annual subscription to the C. & D.

—JAMES VERNON MITCHELL (Kilburn, N.W.).

A tyros' and a buyers' guide,

Some law and learning classified,

A list of "the profession's" lords—

The whole in neat gilt-lettered boards.

Accept my simple compliment:

I think the DIARY excellent.

—A. W. BROMLEY (Old Trafford)

The C. & D. this year, you see,

Is full of information;

It is the "eye" with which I spy

For firms of reputation.

For to buy well and so to sell,

I must consult the DIARY.

Take good advice and do likewise,

And make a full inquiry.

—J. RICHARDS (St. George's Place, S.W.).

A DIARY of Diaries. The chemist's own lawyer. The successful buyer's guide. His sample-book of model advertisements. His annual magazine of choice pharmaceutical items. His daily log and bank book. In short, his strong ladder to success.—FRANK PICKLES (Lincoln).

Mr. C. & D. DIARY, my thanks be to thee

For starting, this year, the new century

With a volume so useful, as it will be, I know,

Appreciated by all the subscribers; and so

My opinion I give you, in words two, three, four—

DIARY '01 is better "than ever of yore."

—SPENCER H. PLATTIN (Nottingham).

It is said "There is nothing new under the sun,"

Which saying I strongly refute,

For the DIARY of this nineteen hundred and one

Supplies negative proof absolute;

For in it we find facts we've ne'er seen before,

And which are to our business a boon.

To other men's brains it is "an open door."

You subscribe and you'll sing the same tune!

—W. H. ANDREWS (Brighton).

All black without, yet neatly bound,

The front with gilt emblazoned;

But turn inside,

Ah! there you'll find

It's crammed with information.

—C. J. RUSSELL (Newcastle-on-Tyne).

The DIARY of the C. & D.

For nineteen hundred and one,

To you and me means *£ s. d.*

In the century now begun.

—F. CAMPBELL MACCORMAC (York).

Many thanks to you, my noble friend, for DIARY just received;

It is the best book you could send to record deeds achieved.

Its worth is unsurpassed to me—I hope you will not doubt it;

May I receive one many years, for I could not live without it.

—J. F. TURNER (Dartmouth Park Hill, N.).

I think that THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1901 is the book for the chemist. Everything that a chemist needs for the increase of his trade is obtainable by its proper use. It is the road to success. It is recreation for anyone during leisure hours, and it is wise to have it at hand during business hours.—JOHN THOMAS (Newport, Salop).

The DIARY contains a wonderful collection of needful information for the trade, which makes the book a capital one for reference.—A. G.



## Medical Gleanings.

### ISOPILOCARPINE.

ISOPILOCARPINE, an isomer of pilocarpine, is much weaker in action than pilocarpine. In the rabbit its action on the heart seems to be comparatively less powerful than its influence on the salivary glands, but in cats and man this is not so obviously the case. Professor Marshall places its activity as one-eighth to one-tenth that of pilocarpine. The same authority, referring to pilocarpidine, says it is very slightly active; it may almost be said to be inactive. Solutions of 1 in 200 injected into the circulation cause a slight fall of blood pressure and in cats slight salivation.

### OXYGEN SUBCUTANEOUSLY.

DR. W. EWART, before the British Medical Association, gave particulars of the methods of injecting oxygen subcutaneously which he has practised. The injection of peroxide of hydrogen is the method that presents less risk, but the injection of oxygen gas is easier to carry out. A fifth of a pint of 10-per-cent. solution of peroxide of hydrogen was added to four-fifths of a pint of saline solution, and infused under the skin. This method was used in five severe cases of pneumonia, but Dr. Ewart prefers not to draw conclusions from so limited an experience. Injections of oxygen are only indicated in urgent conditions, and the question as to whether subcutaneous injections are preferable to the inhalation method has yet to be settled.

### INFANTILE ECZEMA.

THE following is a good method of treatment. Eliminate pathological products by a dose of calomel (1 to 2 gr.) once to three times a week, and use the following ointment:—

Acid. salicylici	...	...	gr. xv.
Bismuthi subnitrat.	...	...	5v.
Amyli tritici	...	...	℥iv.
Ung. rosæ	...	...	3iss.

Rf. unguentum,

To be applied on lint.

For pruritis Lichtenstein recommends the application of a dusting-powder consisting of:—

Menthol.	...	...	3j.
Zinci oxidi	...	...	5j.
Amyli	...	...	5vj.
Pulv. cretæ gall.	...	...	5vj.

M.

When the skin is quite healed it is to be washed with a lotion composed of a teaspoonful of the following solution in a pint of water:—

Acid. arseniosi	...	...	gr. x.
Spt. rectificat.	...	...	3j.
Aq. destillat.	...	...	3j.

S et M

### STOMACHIC POWDER.

PROFESSOR PEL, of Amsterdam, has found the following prescription to be of great value in hyperacidity of the stomach:—

Sodii bicarbonatis	...	...	3iv.
Magnesie calcinatæ	...	...	3iij.
Sodii bromidi	...	...	3iv.
Bismuthi carbonatis	...	...	3ij.
Sacchari lactis	...	...	3iv.
Olei foeniculi	...	...	℥v.

Misce bene.

Dose: Half a teaspoonful three times a day one or two hours after food.

The sodium bromide in this is what distinguishes it from most English stomachic powders, also the absence of carminatives such as cinnamon and ginger, which are frequently hurtful in acidity.

### TINCTURE OF IPECACUANHA.

ACCORDING to Dulière (*Jour. de Pharm. d'Anvers*, 1900, 345), the tincture of ipecacuanha of the Belgian Pharmacopœia, which is made with 80-per-cent. alcohol, is not as

satisfactory as could be desired. He concludes that the tincture is subject to alteration by gradual deposition, so that constant characters cannot be assigned to it. The chief part of the deposit, however, is found to be inulin, so that the alkaloidal value does not appear to be materially altered by the precipitation. It appears that the experiments of Personne were the basis of the pharmacopœial choice of a solvent, and that these took into account only the total amount of extractive matter yielded to the various solvents with which experiments were made. By using alcohol of 80-per-cent. strength, a tincture of equal alkaloidal value is obtained, whilst the extractive matter is less, and there is no tendency to deposition even after a considerable time. It is therefore suggested that the formula should be revised in the next edition of the Pharmacopœia.

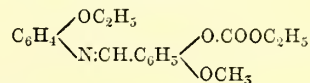
## Scientific Progress.

**Adulterated Saffron.**—Dael's reports (*Répertoire de Pharmacie*, 1900, 537) a case of saffron which presented all the appearances of genuine saffron, but which on careful examination showed that it had been treated with a solution of potassium boro-tartrate. Apart from the abnormal ash, it easily revealed its sophistication by the character of its aqueous extract, in which the mineral salt was found.

**A New Glucoside.**—Schlagdenhauffen and Reeb have isolated a new glucoside from the seeds of *Erysimum*, one of the *Cruciferae*. In physiological properties it resembles digitalin, and they propose to name it erysimin. It occurs in the form of a yellow amorphous mass, soluble in all proportions of water and alcohol, but insoluble in chloroform and ether. It melts at 190° C., and at a slightly higher temperature decomposes with the evolution of dense vapours. Its formula is a multiple of C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>7</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. The seeds of the ornamental species of the plant, *E. aureum*, contain two active principles, one of the nature of an alkaloid, and the other a glucoside.

**Assay of Ergot.**—The following is said to be a very trustworthy method of estimating the value of ergot of rye. One gramme of the ergot is infused in 20 c.c. of water acidified with 1 drop of hydrochloric acid. Four cubic centimetres of the liquid, representing 0.2 gramme of ergot, is treated with excess of ammonia and shaken with ether. The ether is evaporated, and the residue is taken up with a little acetic acid containing iron, and this allowed to come in contact with strong sulphuric acid by gently pouring the latter into the tube in the same manner as in the well-known nitrate test. If there is a normal quantity of cornutine present, an intense blue zone is produced (0.2-0.25 per cent.). If the ergot is much poorer in cornutine, no colour is produced.—*Journal de Pharmacie*, 1900, 437.

**A New Antipyretic.**—A new antipyretic, of complex constitution, has been introduced by Messrs. Zimmer & Co. It is termed "eupyrin," but has no chemical relationship with antipyrin. It is vanillin-ethyl-carbonate para-phenetidin, and forms greenish-yellow crystals with a vanilla odour, but with very little taste. It melts at 87-88°, and is slightly soluble in water, but easily so in alcohol, ether, and chloroform. It forms salts with acids, and has the following structure:—



**Alkaloids of *Bocconia Cordata*.**—An important paper by Murrill and Schlotterbeck, on the alkaloids of this plant (*N.O. Papaveraceae*), appears in the current issue of the *Berichte*. The authors found alkaloids in all parts of the plant—in the leaves, flowers, fruit, twigs, and root (rhizome). The last-named was the richest in alkaloid. The close morphological similarity between this plant and *Sanguinaria* and *Chelidonium* at once suggested a similarity in the nature of the alkaloids. It is probable that *Bocconia* is identical with *Macleaya cordata*, from which Eijkman isolated the alkaloid protopin. The authors find that this base forms two-thirds of the total alkaloids of the plant. It has the formula C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>, and forms crystals melting at 201-207° C. Homochelidonine, C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>, was also isolated in crystals melting at 155° C. The alkaloid known by this name isolated by Selle from *Chelidonium* melted, however, at 192° C. In addition to these, chelerythrine, C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>, and sanguinarine, C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>, were isolated in the crystalline condition.

THE imports of Indian opium into Chefoo, China, during 1899 were 1,681 cwt. (139,347*l.*) against 591 cwt. (49,996*l.*) in 1898.



## Trade Report.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: December 27.

AS usual, at this season, business in the drug and chemical markets is temporarily suspended, and no revival can be looked for until stocktaking and the clearing-up operations which mark the end of the year are over:—

### Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom, from December 20 to 24, both inclusive:—Aniseed oil, (Chin.) 10; anise-star, 25; arrowroot, (St. V.) 477; benzoin, 73; buchu, 28; camphor, 75 tubs; cardamoms, 11; cassia oil, 10; castor oil, (Ital.) 15; citronella oil, 80 cs. 68 drms. 25 tanks; coca-leaves, 15; cocaine (crude), 7; croton-seed, 10; drugs (from Ghent) 8, (from Cartagena) 2 bags, (from Panama) 6 bls.; fenugreek-seed, 464; honey 100 cs., (Chil.) 49; kola, 4; lime-juice, 299; lime oil, 24; opium, 134; rhubarb, 31; peppermint oil, 5; quicksilver (Span.), 5,386; spermaceti, 100; vanilla, 5; wax, bees' (E.I.), 11, (from Suez) 25; wax (Japanese), 35.

### Java Quinine-auctions.

The following dates have been fixed for the ten quinine-auctions to be held in Batavia in 1901:—January 16, February 27, April 3, May 15, June 19, July 24, September 4, October 9, November 13, and December 18. The auctions, which were due to be held on December 19 this year, have been postponed until December 28.

### American Drug Market.

New York, December 19.

The general drug market is quiet and dull, as is usually the case at this season.

OPIMUM, after displaying some weakness locally, is now firm again at \$3.45 for single cases of jobbing sorts.

QUININE is very dull indeed at the decline to 30c., which has already been referred to as having taken place simultaneously with the decline in bark at the last auction.

BALSAM, CANADA, has advanced to \$2.80 per lb., and is scarce.

CASCARA SAGRADA is weak, though quotations remain unchanged at 4½c. to 6c. as to age and character of the bark.

GOLDEN SEAL is dull and rather irregular at from 57c. to 60c. as to holder.

SENEGA is held firmly at 44c. to 47c. per lb., though no business is reported.

JALAP is firm at 14c. to 15c. per lb., and local stocks are small.

IPECAC (Rio) is easy at the recent decline to \$2.75 to \$2.85 per lb., and no transactions of consequence are reported.

ASA FETIDA.—The supplies continue light, and the recent advance in quotations is firmly maintained; 30c. to 35c. is demanded for choice grades, the better qualities of select basis being almost unobtainable.

### German Drug Market.

Hamburg, December 24.

Business is almost nil in consequence of the holidays, and fluctuations of market values are few.

CONDURANGO-BARK is low, at 250m. per 100 kilos.

CEVADILLA-SEED.—Unchanged, at 70m., and, owing to the entire absence of demand, holders are very willing to sell.

WORMSEED is more settled, as consumers are not disposed to pay the present high prices of 55m. to 60m. per 100 kilos.

CORIANDER-SEED.—Stocks remain reduced; 28m. per 100 kilos. for prime.

IPECACUANHA.—Of Cartagena there were orders from London in our market, and holders, in consequence, keep firm, at 15½m., and 24½m. for Rio.

SANTONIN.—Second-hand is now exhausted, and consumers are obliged to pay the maker's price.

ERGOT OF RYE is firm, there being no cheap lots in the market, and 475m. is paid for sound Russian, and 500m. for Spanish.

STAR-ANISE is considerably firmer, from China especially, as some importers have re-purchased a part of their sales at about 62s. 6d. per cwt. On the spot 140m. to 145m. is quoted.

ANISE is in good demand, at 34m. to 35m. per 100 kilos., as per quantity.

CANTHARIDES have declined, and are offered at 490m.

JALAP.—Stocks are small, and held at 125m. per 100 kilos.

QUININE.—Very flat, at 40m. to 39½m. per kilo.

CAMPHOR.—There are some weak second-hand holders in the market, and this causes a trifling decline, so that there are offers in the market at 450m. to 455m.

GUM SANDARAC has been in brisk demand, especially the better qualities.

ESSENTIAL OILS.—Star-anise firmer from China; on the spot, 14m. per kilo. is quoted. Peppermint: H. G. Hotchkiss, 5.70m. per lb.; Japan dementholised, 8½m. per kilo. Cassia entirely neglected.

COCA-LEAVES.—Bolivian firm, at 350m., and Cusco leaves at 275m. per 100 kilos.

SENEGA is flat and lower, at 425m. per 100 kilos.

### Cablegrams.

NEW YORK, December 27, 3.30 P.M.: The tone here is dull. Opium is quiet, at \$3.45 per lb., and quinine is weak, at 29c. per oz. Coca-leaves are lower, at 38s. per lb., and so is cod-liver oil, at \$23 per barrel. Jalap is firm, at 14c. Ipecacuanha is lower, at \$2.60, and the same applies to senega at 43c., golden seal at 57c., Mexican sarsaparilla at 7½c., and salicylic acid at 38c. per lb.

\* \* \* \*

HAMBURG, December 27, 1.50 P.M.: Refined camphor is quiet. Menthol, lycopodium, and santolin are all firm.

BENZON.—A small business in Palembang gum has been done at 50s. per cwt.

BUCHU.—The s.s. *Goth* from Cape Town has arrived with 28 bales.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Private advices from New York report a greater anxiety to sell at rates below the London parity, which are still 1s. 6d. for siftings, and 1s. 10d. for tops.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—In Liverpool a considerable business has lately been done at from 23s. 6d. to 24s. per cwt. for recent arrivals of last year's bark. In London the drug is somewhat scarce, at 22s., c.i.f., for bark gathered this year.

CAMPHOR.—Previous to the holidays a large business was reported for arrival at the monopoly prices, including crude Formosa at 178s. 6d. per cwt., and pressed at 195s., c.i.f. Japanese is quoted 182s. 6d., c.i.f. A Hong-Kong report dated November 23 stated that about 100 piculs of Kwangsi have arrived and are offered at 184s., c. and f., Hamburg. An arrival of Kwangsi camphor is expected on the London market shortly.

CINCHONA.—The auctions to be held at Amsterdam on January 10, 1901, will consist of 6,105 bales and 185 cases (weighing 551,266 kilos.) Java cinchona, consisting of 414,241 kilos. Ledgeriana, 85,008 kilos. Succirubra, 52,017 kilos. Hybrid.

COCOA-BUTTER.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on January 8 next will consist of 60 tons Van Houten, 20 tons Helm, 5 tons De Jong, and 5 tons Mignon; while on the same date at London 75 tons Cadbury's brand will be offered.

IPECACUANHA.—The last business done was at 6s. 9d., but now 7s. is asked generally. Rio is firm at from 10s. 3d. to 10s. 6d. according to quality.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—The tendency of the Bergen market is still weaker, owing to abundant offers from the northern cities at rates below 63s. per barrel, f.o.b. The exports from Bergen of non-freezing oil up to date amount to 1,068 barrels, against 14,149 barrels at the same time last year.

OIL, ROSE.—Business in East Indian has been done at 7½d. per oz., c.i.f.

OPIMUM.—Our Constantinople correspondent writes on December 21 that for the first time for a long period he has to record a fortnight of almost absolute quiet. Both buyers and sellers appear to be pausing pending further developments. The future of the article depends almost entirely on the weather during the next two months, and meantime any serious fluctuations cannot be expected. Market keeps firm at last prices. On the Smyrna market the sales for the week ending December 14 amount to 5 cases only, but holders firmly maintain their position, and should large buyers come forward, prices are likely to advance.

QUININE.—The second-hand market closed dull on Friday at 1s. 1½d. per oz., 1s. 1¾d. for March, and 1s. 2d. for May, and since then there has been no change.

SARSAPARILLA.—Mexican is a shade easier at 3¾d., c.i.f.

WAX, JAPANESE.—Good pale squares have sold at 32s. 6d., spot.



## Winter Session.

Notices of meetings to be held are inserted under "Coming Events." If meetings are not attended by reporters, secretaries of associations would oblige by communicating with the Editor.

### Chemists' Assistants' Union.

A MEETING was held on December 19 at the Church Institute, Paddington, W. Twelve new members were proposed and elected, after which a paper was read by the SECRETARY in the absence of the author, Mr. Edward Young, on

#### EXPERIENCES IN THE DRUG-TRADE.

Mr. Young was apprenticed for three years to a firm of chemists at Ipswich, passing the Preliminary examination whilst there. At the finish of the apprenticeship, seized with discontent, he joined a cavalry corps, but was bought out in twelve months. After a few months of civil life, however, Mr. Young again enlisted, this time in the Army Medical Corps. The duties at first comprised all sorts of dirty work, but after a few months he was given charge of a ward, and had to dress wounds and take the temperatures of the patients. From this he came to be an Army compounder, having also to keep the books and attend the doctor on his rounds. Many dodges for shamming illness were resorted to by the soldiers to escape duty, and this unfortunately often recoils on those who are really ill and not so well able to tell plausible tales to the medical officers. The dispensing in the Army is of the simplest description, stock-mixtures being kept of recognised Army prescriptions, and other remedies only used in urgent or dangerous cases. Red-tape is much in evidence in the department, and if a requisition for a drug to save a man's life were made on a form not quite correctly filled in or signed, the drug would not be sent. After serving in three stations, Mr. Young got transferred to the ranks with a view to seeing active service, and was drafted to Egypt and afterwards to India. He was called on to act as compounder several times in cases of necessity. Tired of life in India he left the Army and came back to England, when after a short stay he accepted an engagement as male charge assistant at the New Hospital, San José, Costa Rica. The hospital turned out to be a good-sized and well-built place, but the wards were very dirty and the patients much neglected. This necessitated much hard work on Mr. Young's part, as he had to do all the dispensing and see that the other attendants did their work properly. The patients only had one dose of medicine at a time given to them in a medicine-glass, bottles not being used. The salary was 10% a month and all found, a two-years' agreement being signed by Mr. Young and those who went out with him. The agreement, however, turned out to be invalid, and he left after ten months. Mr. Young then worked his passage from Port Simon to New York, and joined the Hospital Corps of the U.S. Army. He was sent to an Army medical training school at Fort Riley, qualified as a hospital steward, and was sent for duty to Fort Grant, Arizona. The pay was 9% a month, with everything found, and besides that he was able to make from 15s. to 17. a week by dispensing prescriptions for civilians. The people were a simple lot, and Mr. Young related how an old fellow, to whom he had supplied some quinine-and-ipecac. capsules, asked him not to send his fresh supply of medicine in such small bottles, as it took such a time to pick the stuff out. Transferred to San Carlos, Arizona, an Indian Reservation, life was more monotonous, and Mr. Young resolved to go back to civil life. He obtained a position as manager with Mr. Hitchcock, Globe, Arizona, at 21% a month. Globe is a mining-camp of 2,000 inhabitants, and it was what Mr. Young saw there of the fearful effects of universal and continuous whisky-drinking that caused him to forswear alcohol for ever. At Globe Mr. Young was married, and it was his wife's illness (mountain fever) that caused him to leave a town where he was prospering so well. He then paid a visit to his wife's relatives in Canada, and after two months returned to England. The Corps of Commissionaires obtained a situation for Mr. Young as night-watchman at a large corn-merchant's at Wandsworth, and whilst there he read up

for the Apothecaries' Hall, which examination he eventually successfully negotiated. Mr. Young has now found rest as a dispenser and bookkeeper to a firm of doctors at Dover, and his advice to discontents, which none will say is given without experience, is, "Stick to your pill-rolling, put up with the disagreeable smells, customers, and governors, and don't wander all over the world seeking something better to do, as at the last you will only have to begin again where you left off."

A vote of thanks was passed to the author of the paper.

### Liverpool Chemists' Association.

THE closing meeting of the fifty-first session was held on December 20, at the Royal Institute, Liverpool. Mr. A. S. Buck (President) occupied the chair.

The PRESIDENT announced that Messrs. H. B. Morgan and W. H. Clubb had been elected to fill the vacancies on the Council.

Mr. JOHN SMITH introduced the question of a draft

#### PHARMACY BILL,

and, dealing with the question of Mr. A. C. Abraham's proposed draft, he said it claimed their serious consideration, as the writer had a great deal of experience with the subject. There were many points of resemblance between the Abraham draft and the proposed Council Bill, and also many points of difference. He objected to the use of the word "titles" only in Mr. Abraham's Bill. Clause 1—the Council Bill—which said "sign, title, description, or addition," was much to be preferred. In Clause 2 a penalty of 50% was proposed, whereas the official Bill said 5%, as before. The latter fine, in Mr. Smith's opinion, was sufficient: he would not support a ruinous penalty upon an individual, but one which could be imposed repeatedly, and act as a deterrent. In Clause 3 it was required that those managing the business should swear an affidavit to the effect that they were duly qualified, but the official Bill placed the duty upon the Registrar, and it was proper that it should be the duty of the Registrar of the Society. In Clause 6 the question of the name-plate was dealt with; all the names of the qualified men were to be placed over the door, painted or otherwise. There would, therefore, be quite an array—in fact, an imposing list—of names over the door, and he (Mr. Smith) failed to see the advantage of this arrangement. He could not well frame into words his objection to this, but he should be opposed to it for many reasons. The public would be protected, and sufficiently guarded, if the place be duly registered for dispensing medicine and selling poisons, and it is stated that a qualified man is managing it. An important difference between the two Bills is the fact that Mr. Abraham's Bill would interfere with the dispensing of prescriptions. Mr. Smith thought that this was unnecessary. It would be quite enough if the Bill dealt with poisons, as probably one in every three prescriptions contained scheduled poisons. It was very inadvisable to make an attack on medical men, and, as a matter of policy, it would be better to leave it alone, and not provoke ill will towards the chemists. The General Medical Council were beginning to take the matter up, and no doubt in a short time the matter will be adjusted. In the last clause the penalty in Mr. Abraham's Bill was 10%: he thought 5% would be sufficient. Coming to the Council Bill, he said it was to be admitted that legislation was necessary; but if this Bill did not recommend itself to Parliament it would be rejected. He believed, however, that, as far as private Bills in this Session were concerned, there would be very little chance of getting a hearing; so he was not very sanguine that it would pass soon.

#### TWO THINGS WERE NECESSARY

in a new Bill—it should go on the lines of the 1863 Act, and adapt the old Acts to the present condition of things. Then it should to some extent embody the Government proposals, and should deal in some way with the branch shops being under registered managers, as it does with the stores. Mr. Smith then commended in detail the provisions of each clause. The new Bill would bring about two important differences: at present unregistered persons may use the title and unregistered persons may be directors of a drug company, whereas it is now sought to restrict those two



things to qualified men only. He approved of the Bill on its merits. It was impossible to give everybody all they wanted, and he trusted the chemists of the country would be favourable to the proposals of the Council, and do all they could to bring about its successful passage as an Act of Parliament.

Dr. SYMES preferred to be a listener rather than a speaker, but it was not a question whether they should accept Mr. Abraham's Bill or the Council's. It was too late for that. Had Mr. Abraham's draft been published several months ago, it might have served to convey some useful suggestions in formulating the new Bill, but now he considered that the Bill of the Council covered all that Mr. A. C. Abraham proposed. It was more a matter of detail than principle. In Clauses 1 and 3 of the new Bill a new principle was introduced. A person who carries on a chemist's business, as well as company chemists, became liable for employing unqualified persons. Dr. Symes thought that the penalty proposed was quite sufficient, and pointed out that the fines in Scotland amounted to 2s. 6d. to 5s. only as compared with 5l. in England, and the latter sum was more likely to be accepted by Parliament. He considered the official Bill very clear, but he hoped the wording of the Bill would cover private partnerships in Scotland, which he was not quite sure it did with the present wording. There were two matters in the Bill in which he might be alone in his opinion, but he thought that at present the Society had the power under its present Act to divide the examination without increase of powers. They also had the right to sue a managing director of a company for using the title if he were unqualified. He had not much support in these views among his colleagues, but as a member of that Association he thought he had the privilege of drawing attention to the matter. It might take two or more years to get the Bill through, and in the meantime the Society might act on its powers now possessed.

Mr. T. F. ABRAHAM said that his criticism would be confined to two points. If the Council Bill were to be regarded as a Poisons Bill, then it was a great success—in that respect it was in every way admirable; if regarded as a machine for bringing revenue to the Society during a chemist's younger days through the curriculum, then it was all that was wanted. But, he contended, the chemists were not merely distributors of poisons. It was quite possible for a company to start dispensing and not distribute poisons. What was wanted was the protection of the chemist in regard to dispensing. As to the curriculum, he had little or no patience with it. A man might learn his business behind his father's shop, and provided he could satisfy the examiners that he was properly qualified, and could prove his competence for registration, then no question should be raised as to where he had obtained his education. He did not see that the proposed Bill would prevent the wrong use of the title of "chemist" in some cases, and any new Bill should prevent this.

Mr. PROSPER H. MARSDEN said he was surprised at Mr. T. F. Abraham's remarks regarding the curriculum. This had been desired for many years. Pharmacy was not merely a means of livelihood, and the safety of the public would be more assured by the employment of a man educated on scientific lines. He regretted that the Act did not deal with dispensing by medical men. He did not want to overload the Bill, but there should be a word or two in it about doctors' unqualified dispensers. He did not see why a doctor should employ an unqualified dispenser any more than an unqualified medical assistant.

Mr. T. F. ABRAHAM said that his remarks must not be considered as a condemnation of scientific education, but when a man had proved his competency it was needless, he thought, to look into the methods by which he had secured that education.

Mr. A. C. ABRAHAM said that, as his brother anticipated last week, the Bill produced by the Council was nobody's Bill—it was, in fact, a hash, and contained internal evidence of the fact. He thought we had had too many Bills brought forward by the Council which had not a chance of passing, and which we were expected to support loyally, and this support had largely been given, he thought. He thought we had wasted quite long enough, and as this Bill only professed to be tentative we should not hesitate to express our views freely. He considered that the main differences between the Society's Bill and his own were that the Society attempts to regulate company pharmacists by a clause which will never

get passed, and would be useless if it did, while his own draft simply endeavours to protect the public by letting them know with whom they were dealing, and what the qualification of such people might be. Further, his Bill covered the dispensing of physicians' prescriptions, whereas that of the Pharmaceutical Society did not. He thought that as the Legislature had granted this protection to Ireland, there was no reason why it should not grant it to England. He believed there was every reason to think that it would. His Bill proposed to make illegal the very acts which the Medical Council are themselves trying to stop, and it was difficult to say how they at least should object to such powers. Indeed, he thought it probable that they would welcome legislation which would take a disagreeable duty off their shoulders. Lastly, his Bill was intended to cover shops where titles were not used, but where the actual practice of pharmacy was carried on. This, he thought, would cover the case of those who, if hit by the Council's Bill, would simply abandon the titles and carry on business as before.

The PRESIDENT said, in thanking Mr. J. Smith for his introduction of the subject, that the Council Bill would at least be effective in stopping the "one-man" companies, and he was inclined to give hearty support to the new Bill of the Pharmaceutical Society.

### Cardiff and District Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A GENERAL meeting of this Association was held at the Victoria Hotel, Cardiff, on December 18, when the rules and programme for the coming session were adopted. This Association, which has only been formed within the last three weeks, already consists of twenty members. A strong and energetic committee has been formed, and a highly successful season is anticipated.

### Mombasa, British East Africa.

NEARLY half the total drug-importations into East Africa is by way of Bombay, and mostly all the druggists and medical practitioners are men who have been in business in India prior to settling here. The law relating to the practice of medicine and pharmacy is the same as that which exists in the province of Bombay. The sale, however, of opium and *bhang* and their preparations and alcoholic spirits is under special restriction. The majority of the natives and Asiatics, who form the backbone of the population, resort at times to their systems of treatment, and for this reason it has not been possible to restrict the practice of medicine in accordance with European ideas.

There is a very large demand for patent medicines of good repute both here and in Uganda, and every year shows an increase in the importation of drugs and allied products from Europe. Quinine in pills, phenacetin, antipyrin, iodoform, and iodide of potassium are drugs the qualities of which are understood even by raw natives of the interior districts. Iodoform is in favour with them to such an extent that they call it *doctori*—meaning, of course, that it is the master of all applications for external use in wounds and sores. There are three or four herbal stores carried on by *gandis* (Indian pharmacists), who sell herbal remedies exclusively of Indian and African origin, and do a good business.

The town is well supplied with medical practitioners, and as each does his own dispensing there are as many drug-stores as physicians. This remark *re* dispensing does not apply to civil surgeons of the Protectorate. Dr. W. H. B. MacDonald is our principal medical officer, and lately was the recipient of the Uganda war medal. Dr. Johnson is the chief assistant to the principal medical officer, and the other assistants are styled hospital assistants, and belong to the Indian subordinate medical service. The Church Missionary Society maintains a hospital, under the charge of Dr. Edwards, for the benefit of the poorer classes of natives and Asiatics.—*Wm. Bowen.*

GERMANY has given up the Réaumur thermometer, and after January 1, 1901, will use only the centigrade.



## Chemical Society.

**A**N extra meeting was held at Burlington House, W., on Thursday evening, December 13, at 8.30, when Professor Henry Miers, Sc.D., F.R.S., of Oxford University, delivered the

### RAMMELSBERG MEMORIAL LECTURE.

Professor Thorpe, C.B., presided over a smallish audience. The late Karl Friedrich Rammelsberg, who died exactly a



KARL FRIEDRICH RAMMELSBERG.

year ago, was an honorary member of the Chemical Society, hence this lecture. To pharmacists he was a man of special interest, for he was a pharmacist's apprentice and assistant. He was born at Berlin on April 1, 1813, and, after his schooling, entered, at the age of 15, the Koch Apotheke, where he remained four years. In this apotheke he learnt botany from Hayne and pharmaceutical chemistry from Heinrich Rose, from whom he imbibed the spirit of scientific research. In 1832 he obtained a situation in the apotheke at Dardesheim, near

Halberstadt, but after one year returned to Berlin with the object of obtaining a university education, and devoting himself to pure science. In 1834 he matriculated, and in 1837 submitted the usual Latin thesis for his doctorate, the subject being cyanogen, the work for it having been done in Mitscherlich's laboratory. He liked inorganic chemistry, especially that related to geology. In 1840 he began to teach in the High School, and was made Privat-docent a year later. His research work was now fairly established, and he was also writing a good deal; thus in 1841 he published a dictionary of chemical mineralogy, and in 1842 his text-book of stoichiometry and theoretical chemistry. In 1846 he was appointed extraordinary professor of inorganic chemistry, and in 1850 he was also made instructor in chemistry at the Gewerbe-akademie, where he was provided with an adequate chemical laboratory. It was not until 1874 that Rammelsberg attained the full recognition of his labours, and was made ordinary professor of inorganic chemistry, in succession to Heinrich Rose. Rammelsberg was equally eminent as inorganic chemist, crystallographer, and mineralogist. He prepared and studied an enormous number of bromides, of the ammonia compounds of the bromides and iodides; of bromates, iodates, and periodates; of phosphates, phosphites, and hypophosphites; our knowledge of the double cyanides is almost entirely due to him; equally laborious and important were his researches upon the sulphantimonates, hyposulphites, sulphites, nitrites, vanadates, phosphomolybdates, &c. In crystallography, he did more than any other man to carry on the work of Mitscherlich, and investigated an immense number of isomorphous compounds. He was practically the father of modern mineral chemistry, and published more than three hundred papers on mineralogical subjects. His active labours in this department continued to the end of his long life, and at the age of 82 he published an elaborate supplement to his "Handbuch der Mineral-chemie."

At the conclusion of the lecture a vote of thanks was accorded to Professor Miers on the motion of Dr. Hugo Müller, seconded by Professor McLeod, and, in putting the

vote to the meeting, the President told how Rammelsberg's suggestion as to the vanadates being like the phosphates had led to the success of Sir Henry Roscoe's vanadium research.

### AN ORDINARY MEETING

of the Society was held on Thursday evening, December 20, at 8 o'clock. The attendance was again small, and although the programme was long, little of it was communicated orally. The first paper was on the union of hydrogen and oxygen, by Mr. J. W. Mellor, B.Sc., who treated the fellows to a historical *résumé* of the work on this subject during the nineteenth century, a daring effort which was only excusable on account of the fact that Mr. Mellor is gathering together all the doubtful points and settling them by actual experiment. He described his results on the electrolysis of hydrochloric acid, which Bunsen and Roscoe found to yield pure hydrogen and chlorine, but the author always got a trace of oxygen (0.009 per cent.). Substantially the interest of the papers, so far as the meeting was concerned, centred round the combination of a mixture of hydrogen and chlorine. In Budde's experiment such a mixture expands in sunlight, when the gases combine to form hydrochloric acid, but Mr. Baker has found that perfectly dry chlorine and hydrogen do not combine or expand. Mr. Mellor said he had found the expansion, and that it is accompanied by a rise of temperature (1° C.); but he did not think his gases were as pure as Mr. Baker's. Thereupon Mr. Baker was peppered with questions by Mr. Page, Professor McLeod, and Dr. Foster Morley. He mentioned a curious thing in reply—viz., that a bit of platinum, recently heated and introduced by a special arrangement into the gases so that nothing but the platinum gets in, suffices to make dry hydrogen and chlorine combine. Mr. Mellor is working on Budde's experiment with the view of clearing up the mystery. Next the meeting had about half an hour of Dr. Hewitt and the blackboard, his subjects being on the nitration of the three tolueneazophenols, and the bromination of the ortho-oxyazo-compounds and its bearing on their constitution, subjects which would be out of place even in the *C. & D.* during this festive season. Amongst papers not read were the following which are worth looking after:—

"Experiments on the Production of Optically Active Compounds from Inactive Substances," by F. Stanley Kipping, D.Sc., F.R.S.

"The Preparation of Nitric Oxide; a Lecture-table Experiment," by Alfred Senier.

"The Action of Ethylene Dibromide on Xylidine and Pseudo-cumidine," by Alfred Senier and William Goodwin

"The Action of Phenyl Carbimide on Diphenyl-, Dialphyl-, and Dinaphthyl-diamines," by Alfred Senier and William Goodwin.

The Society adjourned until January 17.

**A BOOK OF FIGURES.**—By the courtesy of the Acting Agent-General in London we have been favoured with a copy of "Statistics of the Colony of Queensland." The book is unique from a statistician's point of view, consisting, as it does, of over four hundred foolscap pages of dry figures, from which we are enabled to make up the following paragraphs:—

The imports of acids, alkali, chemicals, drugs (including opium), gums, resins, &c., amounted in 1899 to 233,149*l.*, against 238,537*l.* in 1898.

The production of bismuth metal in Queensland was only 2 tons (494*l.*), against 8 tons (700*l.*) in 1898.

The following table shows the quantities of the different articles on which duty was paid in the colony of Queensland during the year ended December 31, 1899, and the amount of duty received:—

	Quantity	Duty	Amount Collected
			£
Perfumed spirits ... ..	1,843 gals.	20s. per gal	1,843
Sarsaparilla and bitters ...	1,016 "	6s. "	305
Methylated spirit (foreign) ...	448 "	5s. "	112
Opium ... ..	24,512 lbs.	20s. per lb.	24,512
Soap, fancy and toilet ...	131,458 "	3 <i>d.</i> "	1,643
Soap ... ..	63 tons	10s. per cwt.	627
Sulphuric acid ... ..	26 "	5s. "	127
Soda crystals ... ..	8 "	2s. "	16
" bicarbonate ... ..	376 "	1s. "	376



## Mr. John Thompson.

WITH the close of this year, or we might say of this century, Mr. John Thompson, whose name has for many years been so familiar to chemists all over the world as a part of the famous style or title of S. Maw, Son & Thompson, will retire from that association and from the active control of the biggest druggists' sundries business in the world. Hundreds of chemists not only in the three kingdoms, but in the three continents where the English language is spoken, have come into personal contact with Mr. Thompson; in a number of instances he has been known to three generations of the heads of pharmacies; he has interviewed the inventors of most of the druggists' notions and novelties which have caught on during the past half-century, and of an even greater number which were stillborn or died in their earliest infancy; and he has certainly won for himself in an eminent degree the esteem of the wholesale trade, especially, it may be added, of those who have aimed at developing businesses on lines parallel with those of "Maw's."

Mr. Thompson is not by any means an ideal interviewee. He has always been courteous to the conductors of this journal, even when he may have thought he had occasion to complain. But it was difficult to persuade him that his retirement was the proper subject of journalistic comment; and when at last he did start talking, his reminiscences dealt far more with others than himself. The *C. & D.* reporter who discussed old times with Mr. Thompson would gladly record the whole conversation; but the Editor's mandate was that this note should concern itself primarily with Mr. Thompson's career; consequently the personal details have had to be sifted out from a conversation which in its entirety conveyed no suggestion of the egotism which inevitably characterises a report of this nature.

Mr. Thompson was born at Macclesfield, in Cheshire, in 1825, but the arithmetician who deducts 25 from 100 and gets 75 as the result is altogether wrong this time. Mr. Thompson is about 35 or from that to 40. After being educated at the Macclesfield Grammar School he went as apprentice to Mr. John Lofthouse, chemist and druggist, Kingston-upon-Hull. His was the principal chemist's business in Hull at the time, and the name is still famous in the drug-trade of that city. It was in recalling his apprenticeship-days that the string of reminiscences began. "I can go back," Mr. Thompson mused, "as far as 1839, and from the first I was a good deal interested in the representatives of London houses who used to visit us. I remember especially Mr. Henry Hearon, of the firm of Hearon, Bright, McCulloch & Co., as I think it was then called. Mr. Hearon lived at York, and used frequently to look us up in Hull. He always presented himself in the attire of the 'bucks' and 'dandies' of the beginning of the century—a dark blue tail-coat with gilt buttons. Mr. John M. Stead, of Hodgkinson, Tonge & Stead, was another of our visitors. I remember him as a fine, handsome young man, with very black hair,

which won for him the sobriquets of 'Handsome Jack' and 'Black Jack.' Mr. Stead, who is still living, did me many a good turn later on when I met him as a traveller. I remember, too, William McCulloch, who succeeded Henry Hearon in Yorkshire; Lindsay Barclay, of Barclay & Sons; Frank Langton, of Langton, Langton & Wheatley; Knott, from Edwards's; Fielden, from Meggeson's; and particularly Robert Letchford, from Maw's, with his box of samples. I little thought then that this was the man I was to succeed or that I should ultimately become a partner in the firm he represented."

Mr. Thompson had a variegated experience following his apprenticeship, and before he found his life's work. At the age of 21 he was an assistant in the Conduit Street house of Messrs. Godfrey & Cooke, who were at that time at or near the top of the pharmaceutical tree. He was a few months with Messrs. Brew & Schweitzer, of Brighton; then he got back to Hull as assistant with Mr. F. M. Foster, and for a short time was in business there on his own account. Afterwards he was with Mr. John Garle, of Bayswater, one of the early examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society, and from there he got "on the road, first, as representative of Wm. Kidston & Co., shopfitters and druggists' sundriesmen, and subsequently travelling for Ede & Co. wholesale perfumers and druggists sundriesmen, of Ludgate Hill.

Of his experiences in pharmacy proper Mr. Thompson related some interesting details. "When I went to Godfrey & Cooke's," he said, "filled a vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Thomas Greenish, who left to start on his own account at New Street, Dorset Square. This was in 1846. Mr. Griffiths was the manager at Conduit Street, and Mr. William Ince, father of Joseph Ince, was at the same time the head of the older establishment in Southampton Street, Covent Garden. The senior assistant at Conduit Street when I went there was Mr. Isaiah Bourdas, later of the firm of Bradley & Bourdas. He was a good friend to me, and I often used to



MR. JOHN THOMPSON.  
AS HE WAS WHEN HE BECAME A PARTNER IN  
THE FIRM.

walk part of the way with him across St. James's Park, on his way to his house at Pimlico, between 10 and 11 at night, after business was over.

"Mr. Griffiths, the manager, was a fine, handsome, and very courtly gentleman. I remember soon after I went there, unfamiliar with West-end prices and practices, a footman came to me for a pick-me-up draught. I gave him a dose of bicarbonate of soda, sal volatile, tincture of gentian, and camphor-water, and charged him 3d. for it. Mr. Griffiths came up to me when he was gone, and in his stately way said, 'Excuse me, sir; how much did you charge that customer?' I told him. He said, 'We never charge less than 6d. for a dose of medicine. If it is one pill, we charge 6d.; if two pills for one dose, we charge 6d.; but if the two pills are two doses, the price is 1s. 'But,' I said, 'this man was a servant.' 'In that case we have no objection to your making him a present of it,' was Mr. Griffiths's rejoinder; 'but we never charge less than 6d. for a dose.'

"Those were the days when medicine was prescribed in draughts. We sold an immense number of morphia draughts prescribed by a Dr. Seymour, who had a great reputation at that time. These were charged 1s. each. I remember a



lady paying me an account, 70% odd, all the items of which were these morphia draughts. I do not remember how long the account had run.

"We used to charge 1s. 6% for 2-oz. bottles of castor oil; 3s. 6% for boxes of seidlitz powders; 2s. 6% for filling smelling-bottles with Godfrey's salts; 1s. for refreshing them; and 5s. for tiny bottles of watchmakers' oil, for which the firm had a great reputation, and the composition of which was kept a secret.

"Yes, I believe the owner of the business at that time was a Mr. Samuel Platt, a brother of Baron Platt, and I know it was generally understood that he drew some 10,000% a year from the business."

"And when did you come to get associated with Messrs. Maw?" asked the interviewer.

"In 1851, and it came about in this way. I had been travelling a short time for Kidston and afterwards for Ede & Co. over Scotland, Ireland, and the North, and Mr. Maw (that was Mr. Solomon Maw, of course) was dissatisfied with the traveller he had then on that ground. Thereupon he consulted his old friend and late traveller Robert Letchford, who had some time previously started on his own account, and who afterwards became well known as a manufacturer of wax matches and other things, and Letchford told him he thought young Thompson would suit him: he was very much liked, and a great nuisance to him when he was on the road, opening accounts wherever he went. So Letchford was commissioned to sound me, and the result was that I was engaged by Mr. Solomon Maw, and made my first journey for the house in the spring of 1852, starting at Edinburgh. The only other representative of the firm at that time was 'Walking Pegg,' who did the South and West of England for them, and walked all his journeys.

"I was on the road until 1853, in which year the old place in Aldersgate Street was burned to the ground. I was in Newcastle-on-Tyne at the time, and got a telegram informing me of the event. Mr. Maw was at Manchester. Of course all travelling was stopped, and when I got to London there was nothing to do. I met Mr. Maw amid the ruins, and suggested to him that I might as well fill up the idle time by taking a trip to America. The proposal rather staggered both Mr. Maw and his chief clerk at first, and the latter particularly was sarcastic about it. 'Do you know anything of America?' he asked. 'No; do you?' I retorted. As a matter of fact, we were about on a par in our knowledge of the United States. But Mr. Maw fancied there was something in the idea, and said he would talk it over with his son Charles, and the following morning he agreed to send me. I sailed on the *Persia* on January 10, 1857, and was back in London in two months to the day, as I had promised. It was in those two months that I consider I made my mark for the firm. The only business of importance we had done with America up to that time had been a transaction in Taylor's lint over which Mr. Maw and Mr. Taylor divided the loss. I went without any connection, and had no introductions. The first order I took was a

general order for goods amounting to nearly a thousand pounds, and I opened accounts with all the leading houses in New York. By placing Taylor's lint there I laid the foundation of a very lucrative business which culminated when the Civil War broke out a few years later.

"One circumstance which occurred during that visit is worth relating. In one house where I called I saw on the shelves a stock of Maw's enemas. 'Where did you get them?' I asked. 'Oh, from X's, a surgical-instrument maker in this city.' So I went to X and asked him if he sold them. He said he did, and told me most frankly that he had bought a few dozens from us in London some years before, and finding them liked he manufactured them himself, using the name and address of S. Maw in exact imitation of ours. He seemed to think we ought to be much obliged to him for what he had done, 'making the name so well known in the U.S.'"

Mr. Solomon Maw died in 1861, and his son Mr. Charles Maw, who was then only twenty-five, interviewed Mr. Thompson, who was then located in Manchester representing

Messrs. Maw, Hodgkinsons, Stead & Tonge and Letchford & Co., working that district and Ireland, with the result that he came to London as manager at 11 Aldersgate Street. The business then grew rapidly, and Mr. Charles Maw was pretty fully occupied with the financial part of the business and with general supervision and organisation, so that to a large extent the details of the sundries department fell into Mr. Thompson's hands. Any chemist can imagine how multitudinous those details must be.

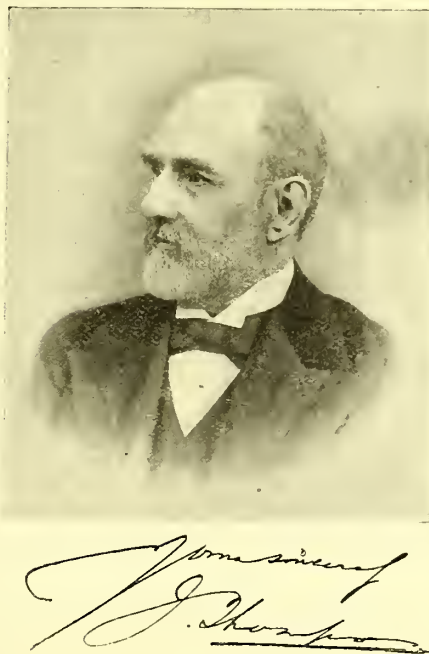
Under Mr. Thompson's management the old-fashioned business became one of the best-organised concerns in the City of London. A large number of the things we know as druggists' sundries have come into existence in his time, and have been the object of his especial care. The Quarterly Price Current and the Book of Illustrations, which index the vast stock kept by the firm, were drawn up by Mr. Thompson, and have always been edited by him. Like all other successful

editors, he has received the compliment of having most of his ideas adopted by rivals.

Mr. Thompson became a partner in the firm in 1870, and as indicative of the respect he had won from those who had worked with him and under him, a few sentences may be quoted from an address presented to him at the time, signed, on behalf of all the employees, by twenty heads of departments.

The address conveyed to Mr. Thompson the hearty congratulations of the staff on the occasion of his entering the firm—an event not altogether unexpected by those who had been witnesses of the continual and enormous increase the business had made under his superintendence. "We are glad of this opportunity," the writers proceeded, "to acknowledge that during the period of your labours here as manager you have proved yourself a faithful representative of the interest of the house, and a steady advocate of every feature that had for its object the consolidation of its prosperity; nor are we unmindful of the fact that you were not slow to seek out and put forward those that you found had the interest of the house at heart." Personal good wishes

AS HE LEAVES THE FIRM.





concluded the document, which was handsomely engrossed on vellum.

Since 1891 Mr. Charles Maw has been absent from the business through illness. Speaking of that gentleman, Mr. Thompson said, as the conversation was coming to an end, he had always found him very even-tempered, which is more than he could say of himself in days gone by, very conciliatory in his manner, very generous and kind. "We always got on together most comfortably," he added, "and I scarcely ever had a difference either with him or his sons.

"With regard to the present heads of the departments," he said, "it will be a great wrench, after so many years of intercourse together, to vacate my place amongst them. I look upon them one and all as friends who have helped me in every possible way in my daily work—men for whom I have the greatest respect and regard, and from whom I shall part with much regret."

In connection with the foregoing we have received an interesting autograph letter from Mr. Charles Maw, of which the following is a copy:—

DEAR SIR,—May I ask you to note in your next issue a change in my old firm, Mr. Thompson's partnership in which expires by efflux of time on December 31, and he retires into private life, after working many years with me and materially assisting in the growth of the business left to me by my father, the late Solomon Maw, in 1831, when I was only 25 years old, for which assistance he deserves and has my warmest thanks.

In future the old house in Aldersgate Street will be carried on by myself and three sons—Mr. Charles Trentham Maw, who has for some years taken part in the general management, and will continue so to do; Dr. Henry T. Maw, M.D. Cambs., M.R.C.S. Eng., who takes charge of the more purely surgeons'-instrument department; and Mr. Mowbray T. Maw that of the counting-house, which he has controlled already for the past seven years. A fourth son, Mr. Arthur T. Maw, has been articled to Mr. Martindale, with a view to qualifying as a pharmaceutical chemist, and, at some future time, managing that part more directly connected with pharmacy.

My own health, unfortunately, precludes my constant attendance at Aldersgate Street, but my forty-six years' experience is always available to my sons, and cannot, I feel, fail to be of much service to them.

Pray pardon this somewhat prolix explanation, which may, however be of interest to some, at least, of the trade.

Yours very faithfully,

CHARLES MAW.

On the occasion of Mr. Thompson's retirement from the firm, an illuminated address in an album was presented to him by the senior employé as a token of their respect and esteem. This was handsomely bound in leather, with gold embossing, Mr. Thompson's monogram in gilt letters occupying a centre recess. The first page, which was beautifully designed, had in panels finely executed water-colour drawings of the old Aldersgate, 11 Aldersgate Street (as it was when Mr. Thompson entered the firm), and the present building, 7 to 12 Aldersgate Street. Mr. Thompson's crest and motto were also worked in, with the date of the occasion; then followed the address, and subscribers' names to the number of 113. The album was a beautiful specimen of artistic illuminating.

**CALCIUM-CARBIDE INDUSTRY.**—The report of the Chamber of Commerce for Lorrach and Waldshut states that in consequence of the recent establishment of numerous works for the manufacture of carbide of calcium for acetylene-gas lighting purposes, the production of the material now meets the demand in Germany. It is estimated that the output of calcium carbide on the European continent alone will amount to 100,000 tons per annum during the next few years.

## For the New Year.

THE year is waning, and the purple glow  
Of wintry sun strikes dull thro' thick'ning fog  
The 'buses rattle; flounce and furlbelow  
Are hid by seal and beaver; all agog  
The pharmacist his bronchial pills prepares,  
And mixtures pectoral with haste compounds;  
Then, weary, to his sanctum straight repairs,  
And falls to reverie 'mid outward sounds  
Of revelry. And, as the carman's cry  
Is echoed by the newsboy in his shrill  
But raucous and insistent lullaby,  
The pharmaceutic conscience feels a thrill,  
And all the neighbouring gallipots give ear  
As he "resolves" once more for this New Year.

The first and foremost of his aims 'twill be  
(By Sacred Bark he swears it, face aglow),  
On this, the threshold of the Century,  
The Dignity of Craft 'gainst friend and foe  
T' uphold in manner fearless; thus he'll fire  
The Orthodox with gay tumultuous pride,  
And earn the love of North-East Lancashire  
With "fundamental principles" for guide,  
He'll join the Pata and the C.D.A.,  
Support the Bill which may the foes remove  
Whom inept Leaders left to bar his way.  
All these he'll do—though Cutters shrink with fear  
And grocers gurgle—in the glad New Year.

No wanton word 'gainst brother-pill he'll say,  
No patent "cut," or try to substitute  
As "just as good"; but do the right alway  
And seek the calm, professional pursuit  
Of fleeting gain from sponge-bag, rubber ring,  
Or festive feeder. Thus he'll pave the road  
To fortune, in the track of those who sing,  
In dulcet numbers, of how much they owed  
To (specialities and) teachings of the great  
And glorious Fathers of the Craft now gone,  
Bequeathing us the Act of '68  
And Education as our stepping-stone.  
Their steps he'll follow, though the cynics sneer,  
And Time will tell much in the coming Year.

\* \* \* \* \*

Friends, one and all, whoever ye may be—  
Tradesman, professional, or seer,  
This be the wish of faithful C. & D.—  
That YOURS may be the Happiest New Year.

## New Books.

Dunglison, R. *Dictionary of Medical Science*. 22nd edition. Imp. 8vo. 30s. (Churchill.)

Fischer, B., and Harturch, C. *Hagers Handbuch der Pharmaceutischen Praxis*. Parts 11 and 12. 2m. each. (Springer, Berlin.)

Gautier, M., and Renault, F. *Formulaire des Spécialités Pharmaceutiques pour 1900: Composition, Indications thérapeutiques, Mode d'emploi, et Doses à l'Usage des Médecins*. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$  × 4. Pp. 372. 3s. (Baillière et fils, 19 rue Haute-feuille, Paris.)

*Guy's Hospital Reports*. Vol. xxxix. New series. 10s. 6d. (Churchill.)

Jennison, F. H. *The Manufacture of Lake-pigments from Artificial Colours*. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$  × 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ . 15 plates. Pp. 136. 7s. 6d. net. (Scott, Greenwood.)

Murrell, W. *What to Do in Cases of Poisoning*. 9th edition. 4 $\frac{7}{8}$  × 3. Pp. 290. 3s. 6d. (Lewis, Gower Street.)

Smith, F. J. *Lectures on Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology*. Crown 8vo. 7s. 6d. (Churchill.)

Stirling, G. *Prescripta Autographa*. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$  × 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Pp. 162. 2s. 6d. net. (Gower, Waterloo, Liverpool.)

Veitch's *Manual of Coniferae*. Enl. ed. by Adolphus H. Kent. 9 $\frac{3}{8}$  × 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Pp. 562. 20s. net. (Simpkin.)



## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY, as it hobbles into history next week, will have enough said about it without any moralising in this page. But I wish I could turn my rays on any ordinary chemist's shop of about 100 years ago and represent the master and his apprentice just as they then existed. It is astonishing how little we know of them. Jacob Bell ransacked the British Museum for his fascinating history of pharmacy, and he fished up a number of interesting facts. But, except in the account he wrote of his own father's career, he made no attempt to show us the real living chemist and druggist of 1800 with his grievances—for it is difficult to imagine him without them—and the character of the business he carried on. The *C. & D.* has often contained contributions which may help the imaginative to realise the work of a pharmacist of a century ago, but the absence of any contemporary periodical literature of the trade is a fatal bar to anything like a distinct comprehension of the habits of our ancestors.

THE DRUG-BUSINESS OF 1800 was, I imagine, a paltry little affair compared with what it is now, and without in the least depreciating the eminence of those historic houses of whose transactions at the period referred to we have some records, the businesses were, I judge, as a rule small and poor. The old apothecaries' shops were of the character familiar still in Glasgow, and the ordinary druggist, who was then working his way upwards, had generally a still commoner shop. As a rule, too, I do not think he was very conscientious. He had to get a living out of a very small turnover, he had not begun to develop side lines, and the law had not dreamed of interfering with his methods of offering his drugs under whatever names he found made them saleable. But it was, perhaps, the absence of trade journals which made the most marked difference between the condition of the pharmacists of the beginning and the end of this century. The druggist knew the methods of the old master to whom he was apprenticed, and perhaps of one or two other houses where he had served as assistant, but he had no means of knowing much about the progress of pharmacy, nor of public events affecting the business he was in. He did not know the names even of chemists fifty miles away, and could have no idea of their thoughts. It was a dull, isolated, monotonous life that he led. I fancy the present-day pharmacist does not often enough realise how much he owes to the press of his calling, which he is always so ready to abuse.

RECIPROCITY IN PHARMACEUTICAL CERTIFICATES between the various qualifying bodies in the British Empire seems gradually drawing nearer, and will be certainly one of the early accomplishments in pharmacy law during the coming century. The opinion of Mr. Sydney Plozman, published last week, to the effect that the Victorian standard is at least equal to that of Great Britain, is of considerable weight. Whether it be a little better or a little inferior is not, after all, a vital question. Shades of difference in this respect ought not to be too critically regarded. They are of trifling import compared with the absurdity of maintaining the anomaly that a person who has been declared competent to sell poisons in Great Britain should not be fit to do so in Ireland or in some other part of the Queen's dominions, and *vice versa*. But among the discussions on this topic we have heard very little of what Canada thinks. I have the

impression that Canadian pharmacists regard their qualification as superior to ours, and perhaps it is. But it would be a pity to attempt to carry out the scheme until every section of the Empire is ready to adopt it. [We may remind "Xraysers" that Canada asked the Pharmaceutical Society a few years ago to reciprocate.—ED.]

NEWSPAPERS AND PRINTERS are presumably the parties most directly interested in the House of Lords' judgment in the Vogeler case. It seems quite possible for an enterprising foreign firm to send an agent to this country with a proprietary medicine, or, indeed, a proprietary anything, advertise it on as large a scale as credit can be got for, and pay the bills if the thing turns out a success, but omit that formality if it does not. Nor would this be a proceeding which would bring the agent within the power of the criminal law. It is not a crime to be sanguine of success, and many newspapers do their utmost to encourage innocent Americans and others to hope for brilliant results if they will only use "our columns." The moral of the legal lesson is simply  *caveat venditor*.

MR. SIEBOLD'S RETIREMENT from the editorship of the "Year Book of Pharmacy" is an event of some importance. Mr. Siebold has carried on this work for over a quarter of a century, and the contents of the long series of green volumes testify to the conscientious care and sound pharmaceutical knowledge which he brought to the task. I could myself have wished that he had allowed himself a little more latitude as a critic of the researches which he so patiently abstracted. He was admirably qualified to do this as those will admit who remember him when he was a regular speaker at the Conferences. But apparently he considered it his duty as an editor mainly to present a record of the world's work in pharmacy year by year, and though keen eyes scrutinised his pages I am not aware that he was ever discovered to have missed anything of importance.

DR. WILLIAM BRUCE, of Dingwall, the direct representative for Scotland on the General Medical Council, is in an awkward corner. A large number of his constituents are in arms against the Council on account of its recent decision in respect to the Glasgow doctor who had defied the Pharmacy Act by letting unqualified assistants sell poisons in his shop. And Dr. Bruce voted for this prosecution. But in a letter he has written to the medical papers he pleads all sorts of relevant and irrelevant excuses and extenuating circumstances. He states that he was one of two members who reported to the Penal Committee that by such action the Medical Council would be acting as a catspaw to the Pharmaceutical Society. He "never had any sympathy with the Pharmacy Act." "We are gradually becoming too much like the Chinese, by insisting on examination and registration of all classes even down to plumbers and midwives." What right has this rabble of chemists, plumbers, and midwives to ape our noble profession? Besides, he proceeds, do pharmacutists themselves employ only qualified assistants? And—ah, ah—do they not prescribe over their counters? Dr. Bruce knows they do, for he has "suffered personally from the practice." Most of the medical critics of counter-prescribing profess that their condemnation of it is only on account of the dear public. But Dr. Bruce is frank and fierce for personal reasons. Perhaps his sympathetic invective will comfort a few voters; but the rebellious Glasgow doctors are hardly likely to accept it in settlement of the awkward fact that Dr. Bruce's vote in the Council was given against them.



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Vol. LVII.

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NEW YEAR MAY BE FULL OF PROSPERITY.



## Pharmacy and the Drug-trade in the Year 1900.

ON the threshold of the twentieth century it is hard for the journalist to resist a survey of the nineteenth, but we recall that during the year, in a series of articles entitled "The Closing Century," we have dealt with the progress of pharmacy as a trade and an art, as well as the progress of chemistry, during the nineteenth century, which opened with licentiates of the Society of Apothecaries as the masters of the craft that we call pharmacy. Apothecaries were shopkeepers as well as the professional lackeys of physicians. In the exercise of the latter function they, or some of them, were slowly becoming superior to their proper avocation—the practice of pharmacy—just as some pharmacists to-day feel that they would have greater freedom in the practice of their art if they were rid of the purely trading element associated with pharmacy. The apothecaries of 1801 occupied the position which chemists and druggists and pharmaceutical chemists do to-day, and their qualifications were similar, except that they aspired to medical knowledge, just as highly educated pharmacists now profess scientific knowledge and consequently desire professional recognition. In the first few years of the century the trading instincts of apothecaries were stirred to their depths by the enactment of revenue measures which extracted taxation from the ailing by imposing a stamp-duty on nostrums; and this between the years 1801 and 1805 drew together the apothecaries and drug-grocers, with the result that the taxation incidence was modified, and the drug-grocers were in a measure consolidated into a distinct body. At the end of the eighteenth century apothecaries were as bitter against drug-grocers, or druggists, as pharmacists are at the end of the nineteenth opposed to company drug-stores. In 1813, when the apothecaries were promoting a Bill to conserve their interests, the druggists of the day had blossomed into "chemists and druggists," and met at the Freemasons Tavern, London, to devise a defence of their freedom of trading threatened by the Bill. This consolidated the body further and largely secured what chemists and druggists wanted, as the Apothecaries Act of 1815 did not molest them; but the chief influence of that Act was the increased freedom which it gave apothecaries to practise medicine. Steadily they paid more attention to this work, and although up to the foundation of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in 1841 they were the licensed pharmacists of the time, the general body of apothecaries were in act and spirit medical practitioners. This was a splendid lever to chemists and druggists; the defence of pharmaceutical interests became their business and led to their incorporation as the Pharmaceutical Society. Next came the statutory recognition of chemists and druggists as an educated body, the Pharmacy Act of 1852 having been passed to confirm the Pharmaceutical Society's charter, and to provide further powers for regulating the qualifications of pharmaceutical chemists. Five years later the first of a series of Bills to regulate the sale of poisons was brought into the House of Commons, and from that time chemists and druggists were closely concerned with this matter. In 1861 the United Society of Chemists and Druggists was formed to look after this and other things affecting them, the promoters thinking that the Pharmaceutical Society, being composed mainly of pharmacists with dispensing businesses, would not look so keenly after trade interests as they desired. A year later the General Medical Council proposed to take the practice of pharmacy under its wing, but the drug-trade, through the two Societies, objected; then followed several measures for regulating the sale of poisons, and Bills promoted by the

Pharmaceutical Society and the United Society, the former not dealing with poisons, but solely with dispensing and titles, and the latter with poisons and the registration of chemists and druggists as the retailers thereof. A Select Committee of the House of Commons, considered both, amalgamating them to some extent into a measure which became the Pharmacy Act of 1868. The United Society died a natural death, most of its leaders being recognised by the Pharmaceutical Society as members. Shortly after this—viz., in 1870—the Irish Sale of Poisons Act was passed, which incorporated the leading principles of the 1868 Act; but this did not give Ireland the supply of qualified compounders of medicine that was urgently required, for there, as in England, the apothecaries who held that qualification were mostly practitioners of medicine. The Pharmacy Act, 1875, created the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and from this Act sprang a body of pharmaceutical chemists who are licensed compounders of medicine and retailers of poison. But this still proved inadequate to give the public sufficient service in respect to retailing poisons, and in 1890 an Act was passed creating a lower grade of registered druggists, who have the right to mix and sell poisons, but not to compound medical prescriptions.

These various Acts of Parliament have had a beneficial influence upon the practice of pharmacy, and doubtless would have raised it to a much higher level than it is to-day had not quasi-external factors kept it back. These are, chiefly, new systems of trading; first the modern rage for cheapness, and second the so-called co-operative system of trading. Mr. Henry Hodder, a Bristol chemist, was the first to "cut" prices. In THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of March, 1869, he was referred to as "the only man thoroughly alive to the lowest form of advertising" 1s. 1½d. patents at 10d. How that kind of trade has increased we need not say, for those who do not cut prices are now the exception. Next came, in 1870-80, indications of company-trading, first by large stores, and then by individuals who as smart business men have exploited pharmacy as a dividend-earning venture. Thus before the end of the eighties registration as a limited company came to be a recognised method of evading the Pharmacy Act, and it has been as successful in Ireland as it has been in Great Britain.

This rapid survey of the chief pharmaceutical events of the century shows that the position of chemists and druggists has been vastly improved legally; and there is nothing more characteristic in regard to the latter part of it than the co-operation which exists in the trade for the furtherance of class interests. Through national and local associations there is now a much better chance of influencing the opinion of the governing bodies. Turning now to more immediate concerns, it will be granted that first place in a review of the pharmaceutical year 1900 should be given to

### COMPANIES AND PHARMACY.

It is the subject that has occupied the attention of the trade without intermission throughout the year; parliament has given time to it, and, best of all, our leaders in pharmacy have progressed more during 1900 than they have done since the London and Provincial Supply Association litigation in 1878-79, when the bottom was knocked out of the Pharmacy Act, 1868. To understand the progress during 1900 it should be remembered that one of the legacies to the Pharmaceutical Council from 1899 was a reference to the Law and Parliamentary Committee of numerous resolutions respecting legislation on pharmacy-companies which had been gathered by the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associa-



tions. From this point we may trace the evolution of opinion and action within and without the council, in a week by week record of what has taken place throughout the year, and it may also be recalled that the Council previously was known to favour either abolition of companies or not touching the subject at all. The dates are the last days of the weeks:—

*January 13.*—Mr. Glyn-Jones's motion at the Council for the L. and P. Committee to report on company-pharmacy "found no second and in ominous silence the matter dropped."

*February 3.*—In the Queen's Speech to Parliament the introduction of the Companies Bill was mentioned as the first item on the programme. We urged the need for the British and Irish Councils to combine in laying before the responsible Minister recommendations respecting pharmaceutical interests in the matter.

*February 10.*—The L. and P. Committee still remained silent.

*February 17.*—Mr. Ritchie, President of the Board of Trade, introduced the Companies Bill into the House of Commons. Clause 2 provided that no company should carry on the business and use the title of "pharmaceutical chemist" or "chemist and druggist," except the manager or assistant was so qualified and his name was posted in the shop; companies were also brought within Section xv. of the Pharmacy Act. Clause 3 prohibited companies carrying on the profession or business of physician, surgeon, dentist, or midwife.—The President of the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations (Mr. John Smith), speaking at Stoke-on-Trent, suggested that Clause 2 should be opposed.—We said that the better plan was to amend the clause by incorporating in it the principle of a qualified directorate, and we addressed all members of Parliament on the matter, giving them the legal history of it.

*March 3.*—Drug-companies circularised members of Parliament urging them not to support fresh legislation on the subject. Several members intimated their intention of amending Clause 2 in the interests of chemists and druggists.

*March 10.*—The President of the Pharmaceutical Society and Mr. Carteighe interviewed Mr. Ritchie, and failing to get him to meet trade views, recommended the Council to oppose the clause. This was agreed to. The Federation issued a circular to local associations suggesting for discussion two clauses to take the place of Clause 2 in the Bill: one prohibited companies using Pharmacy Act titles and carrying on the business of retailing, &c., poisons, the other was a permissive Bill, including a modification of our directorate idea.

*March 24.*—The President of the Pharmaceutical Society, speaking at Paddington, said there was "no unanimity on the question either in the Council or in the trade." Mr. Ritchie had told him that companies were trading under exactly the same conditions as pharmacists with branch shops. The responses from M.P.'s to chemists gave a brighter aspect to the amendment of Clause 2.

*March 31.*—The Irish Pharmaceutical Council arranged, with medical and parliamentary support, to get Clause 2 so amended as to make it acceptable to pharmacists.

*April 7.*—The bulk of provincial opinion communicated to the Pharmaceutical Council approved the opposition of that body, and suggested treatment of the subject in a Pharmacy Bill.

*May 12.*—Fourteen out of seventeen of the candidates for membership of the Pharmaceutical Council informed us that they would support co-operation between the two Pharmaceutical Councils on this question.

*May 26.*—The second reading of the Bill was fixed for June 16. We urged the Pharmaceutical Council to reconsider the whole question in consequence of the strong indication given by the electors, who returned three candidates (Messrs. Cooper, Taylor, and Wootton) pledged to move urgently in the matter.

*June 16.*—Mr. Walter Hills moved at the Pharmaceutical Council meeting that the L. and P. Committee should consider the position of the Companies Bill, also the position of pharmacy in respect to company trading, and suggest expedient action in reference thereto. The Council agreed. *This motion was the turning-point in the Council's conduct towards the pharmacy-company question.*

*June 30.*—The Companies Bill was read a second time in the House of Commons. Mr. Ritchie stated that he had received one hundred times more communications regarding the pharmacy and medical clauses than in respect to any other, and suggested that they should be dropped.

*July 7.*—Clauses 2 and 3 were passed by the Grand Committee on Trade, Sir Henry Fowler and others declaring, in opposition to Mr. Ritchie, that the company evil in this connection (pharmacy was especially referred to) is a subject which ought to be dealt with.—The Pharmaceutical Council resolved, by a majority, to secure the removal of Clause 2 from the Bill.

*July 23.*—The Bill unexpectedly passed through the Committee, and was reported to the House. A deputation from the Irish

Pharmaceutical Council had been lobbying, and obtained no hope of amending Clause 2. During the meeting of the B.P.C. in London Mr. Glyn-Jones organised a scheme for defeating the clauses, and they were struck out "with regret."

*August 4.*—The Bill reached the Committee stage in the House of Lords, when the Lord Chancellor again explained the need for legislation on the subject, but urged agreement with the Commons as the Bill otherwise would not pass that Session.—The Pharmaceutical Council resolved to draft a Pharmacy Bill for consideration in October.

*August 11.*—The Companies Bill became an Act.

*September 15.*—The Irish Pharmaceutical Council regretted that the British Council had resolved to act independently in dealing with the company-question.

*October 6.*—The Special Committee of the Bloomsbury Council reported to the L. and P. Committee.

*November 10.*—No report on the Pharmacy Bill. Considerable dissatisfaction throughout the provinces in consequence, and rumours of dissension on the L. and P. Committee.

*December 8.*—The Council produced its draft Pharmacy Bill providing for a qualified person in each shop open for the sale of poisons, the responsibility of the employers of unqualified sellers of poisons, prohibition of the use of Pharmacy Act titles by corporate bodies, directors of such bodies to be qualified persons, and also giving power to the Pharmaceutical Society to impose a compulsory curriculum, to divide the Qualifying examination, and to authorise reciprocity with other pharmaceutical bodies in the British Empire. The Bill does not extend to Ireland.

We are now in a position to see how momentous 1900 has been. We started the year with a Pharmaceutical Council unwilling to touch the question; but the action of the Government and the desire of Parliament to deal with it, backed by general determination in the drug-trade to have the matter settled, stirred the lethargic Council. The members of the Pharmaceutical Society stimulated it further in May by returning three members who were radical reformers. It is now supposed that these members and Mr. Glyn-Jones have brought about the change, and while we do not desire to discount this at all, the fact remains these gentlemen are the embodiment of the strong feeling of the country that the Pharmaceutical Council was out of touch with its constituents, lethargic in its treatment of the company-question, and inclined to be imperious. Recent actions of the Council show that this is changed, but the reform has not been so radical as is necessary, and a further infusion of new blood next May is anticipated.

The Pharmacy Bill is still in the draft stage and the meeting of Parliament is nearly two months ahead, so that we need not refer to it further except to say that this year has seen the death of the abolition theory in company treatment, and the recognition by our authorities that whatever novel regulation is applied to company-shops must also be applied to those of individuals.

#### PHARMACEUTICAL ADMINISTRATION

may now be referred to. First, we may recall the appointment of Mr. G. D. Beggs as President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, in succession to Mr. R. J. Downes, who retired owing to feeble health and died three months later. Mr. J. I. Bernard succeeded Mr. Beggs as Vice-President, and under them the Society continues to discharge its duties efficiently, while it looks after the reputation of its members in quite a paternal way. For example, early in the year a medical journal which circulates rather freely in Ireland aspersed the character of pharmacists by saying that they could not compound fractions of a grain into pills or tablets. The Council made the journal climb down. The evening meetings of the Society were also good in the matter of fare provided, but the attendances were small. In May Mr. James Michie resigned his seat on the Council, and was appointed an examiner, Dr. Meredith Whitla succeeding him as councillor. At the same Council meeting Mr. Turkington questioned if it was equal to prevent candidates for the Registered Druggist examination entering until 21, whereupon the Council drew



up a regulation, which Dublin Castle approved. On the occasion of the Queen's visit to Ireland she was received at Kingstown by Mr. T. W. Robinson, a pharmacist and ex-councillor, who later received a knighthood. In June Dublin chemists decided to invite the British Pharmaceutical Conference to meet there in 1901, and the invitation was accepted a month later. Mr. George Brown was elected to the Pharmaceutical Council in place of Mr. Downes, and at the annual meeting in October Messrs. Thomas N. Moffitt and Thomas Butt took the places of Messrs. Ryan and Walsh. At this meeting the President reported that there were on the registers 610 pharmaceutical chemists, 289 chemists and druggists, and 478 registered druggists. In the course of the year 57 passed the Preliminary examination and 11 were registered on the basis of other examinations, 7 passed the Pharmaceutical Assistants' examination, 31 that for registered druggists, and 24 passed the Licence examination. These figures are all ahead of the previous year. This annual meeting was quite a piquant affair, in consequence of Dr. McWalter suggesting that political and ecclesiastical connections had an influence upon the election of Councillors. In November the Council appointed Mr. Guiler, of Belfast, as an examiner but there was a bit of a squabble over it. During the year the Council has enforced the Pharmacy Acts by numerous cases in court, the most important being in respect to compounding by druggists; in one such case, at Tullamore, seven summonses were taken out, and fines of 20*l.* and costs inflicted in respect to four. Such cases as these bring into relief the real evil of two grades of qualification in pharmacy; the environment of the two is the same, but the powers different, and there is a constant temptation for the lower grade to exercise the functions of the higher. As a matter of fact, this is the greatest evil which the Irish Executive has to deal with, and the day may not be far distant when an appeal has to be made to Parliament for the amalgamation of the grades.

The Legislature of the Isle of Man had a great deal of trouble before it got rid of the Bill to regulate the sale of poisons introduced in 1899. We had indicated weak points in the Bill, and the House of Keys appointed a committee to consider these. Early in January this committee heard a deputation of chemists in regard to the companies-question and as to enlarging the poison schedule. The chemists' suggestions were assented to, the Lord Chancellor's pharmacy-company clause being introduced into the measure, and eight items, including carbolic and mineral acids, were added to the schedule. When the Bill came before the Legislative Council in March the company-clause was objected to, and, after consultation with the Keys, one was adopted which is substantially the Lord Chancellor's in principle, but embraces dispensing of prescriptions. The additional poisons were not agreed to, as any added to the British schedule automatically become poisons in the island. The Bill passed, and was duly proclaimed at Tynwald. The Jersey Pharmacy Act, after the expiration of the first three years' operation, was renewed with trifling alterations in September. We may note that the Isle of Man is the first part of the British Empire to do something definite in respect to the company-question. The Act virtually makes the conditions for the practice of pharmacy and the sale of poisons the same in the island as in Great Britain, but institutes no pharmaceutical authority.

In Great Britain several events regarding poisons and their sale have occurred during the year which have more than passing interest. The most important and serious case was one in which the Pharmaceutical Society appealed against the decision by the Worcester County Court judge holding that a florist, who

took an order and the money for arsenical weed-killer supplied direct by the manufacturer to the florist's customer, did not keep open shop for the sale of poisons, and was not a seller in the Pharmacy Act sense. The Queen's Bench upheld the judge's decision. The Society obtained leave to appeal further, and an appeal was entered, but in the law's delays the case has lost interest. At the first blush the decision looked like disaster, but actual sales of that character are still illegal, as they are not conducted in the manner required by the Arsenic and Pharmacy Acts.

It is to this action that we owe the creation of the Traders in Poisons and Poisonous-substances Protection Society. Mr. T. G. Dobbs, the solicitor for the defendants, is Secretary of the Society, and is the author of a Bill which would enable any shopkeeper to sell poisons if in packets labelled with the name of the article, the word "Poison," and the seller's name and address, provided the shopkeeper's place of business is licensed. Mr. Dobbs appears to have received some encouragement from a person or persons officially connected with the Pharmaceutical Society, and, emboldened, went to the Chemical Section of the London Chamber of Commerce for support, which he almost succeeded in getting this month. At first he intended to amend the Irish Pharmacy Act as well as the British, but now he is confining his attention to the latter. Clearly he needs close watching.

Another case, heard at Linlithgow in May, raised the question as to whether imprisonment may be imposed if a fine under the Pharmacy Act is not paid. "An interesting and attractive young lady" was the defendant in this case, and she was let off with a fine. However, by arrangement, another case was brought before the same Court last month, and imprisonment was made part of the sentence. The Court of Session will decide whether this is right or not.

In several instances during the past few years the Pharmaceutical Society has had to proceed against the unqualified assistants of doctors who keep open shop near Glasgow, with doubtful success; but the Council has received strong support from the General Medical Council, which this month declared that it is infamous conduct in a professional respect to employ such persons and thus encourage infringement of the Pharmacy Act. In other cases the Pharmaceutical Council has maintained the principles of the Pharmacy Act.

The Registrar-General's report for 1898 was published in March, and on analysing the poisons section of it we found that of the 1,114 deaths recorded only 326 were due to scheduled poisons, and no fewer than 206 deaths were due to carbolic acid, 169 of the 206 being suicides, in which class only 192 deaths were caused by scheduled poisons. We immediately called the attention of the Privy Council and Home Secretary to these figures, and as a result of communication with Sir John Leng, who had questioned the Government in regard to the scheduling of carbolic acid, drafted for him a question, which he put to the Home Secretary immediately after the Easter recess, and Sir Matthew White Ridley replied that there were good prospects of steps being taken in the direction desired. At the July meeting of the Pharmaceutical Council a communication was received from the Privy Council suggesting a resolution respecting carbolic acid to include all liquid preparations of phenol and its homologues containing more than 3 per cent., but exempting preparations for horticultural and agricultural purposes sold in sealed packets. The majority of the Council eagerly accepted the suggestion, passed the resolution, and it came into force on September 1. Even this inadequate measure of repression upon a traffic which unbridled has caused more deaths during the past fifteen



years than any other poison scheduled or unscheduled was received with cries of "monopoly" by oilmen, grocers, and other unqualified traders; while wholesale distributors of carbolic acid to such retailers have shown much ingenuity in getting round the resolution. Happily, all this may work for the restoration of the poison-schedule to what we may call its pristine purity, and the Pharmaceutical Council have the opportunity of neutralising the effects of their hot haste in agreeing to an infraction of the principle of the Pharmacy Act. The majority now realise, we dare say, that a better day's work was never done for Mr. Dobbs than the Pharmaceutical Council's on July 4, 1900.

The year has been specially significant in regard to

#### EDUCATION, EXAMINATIONS, AND RECIPROCITY.

The by-laws of the Pharmaceutical Society, approved by the Privy Council three years ago in respect to the examinations and fees thereof, came into force after August. Consequently the entries for the examinations under the old conditions in January, April, and July were exceptionally heavy. For

example, last year 1,530 candidates were examined in the "First" or Preliminary, and of these 723 passed; this year at three examinations 2,158 were examined, and 1,173 (including 119 apprentices with other certificates) qualified for registration as apprentices—a record figure. Henceforth apprentices must produce evidence that they have passed an examination in English, Latin, arithmetic, algebra, Euclid, and a modern language at not more than two examinations. The Society no longer conducts an examination, but accepts the certificates hitherto recognised, those that are best adapted for the purpose being the second class of the College of Preceptors and the Educational Institute of Scotland's examination. It is stated that as a result of the new condition apprentices are difficult to get in various parts of the country, especially Scotland; but this is a matter which will right itself in time, supposing that it is more than a transient experience.

The ten-guinea Minor fee, which came into force after the July examinations, was bound to cause an exceptional run on the Qualifying examination, and up to that time 1,574 candidates were examined out of the total of 1,889 for the year, against 1,816 last year. Only 366 of the candidates examined in London satisfied the examiners, or a little over 26 per cent., as compared with 28 per cent. in 1899; while in Edinburgh 182 out of 512 candidates passed, or 36 per cent., which is substantially the same figure as last year. For the Major examination there were ninety-nine candidates—four less than last year—three

of them being in Edinburgh, and the rest in London. The total passes were forty-four; last year there were fifty. Slowly, but surely, this examination is becoming shelved.

The official remedy for these extreme failures in the Minor (which we attribute chiefly to the examination being overburdened) is a compulsory curriculum, and towards that some progress has been made during the year. It will be remembered that two delegates from our Australasian colonies, including Mr. A. B. Chater, of Brisbane, last year interviewed the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland in regard to reciprocity, and following upon their interview the Council addressed Mr. Chamberlain, the Colonial Secretary, regarding reciprocity between Ireland and the colonies. Mr. Chamberlain became much interested in the subject, and caused inquiries to be made. This has been beneficial, and the reciprocity-movement has never abated during the year in the Australasian colonies. That subject is especially well dealt with by our associate journal *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*, and although various

schemes have been brought forward and have fallen to the ground, it now seems likely that a satisfactory solution of the question will be found in Australasia. Meanwhile, Mr. A. B. Chater's work in this country has been eminently useful. After his visit to Ireland he came to London and had several opportunities of educating our Bloomsbury authorities on the subject. They saw how important the matter is from the imperial point of view, and when Mr. Shillinglaw, Secretary of the Victoria Board of Pharmacy, wrote to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain suggesting a basis for reciprocity, the Council accepted his suggestion, and the curriculum clause (7) of the Draft Pharmacy Bill is the result. It will be remembered that three years ago we printed a series of articles advocating

reciprocity, and this year we have published a similar series on the necessity of dividing the Division of the Minor. Minor examination. In these we showed that division is warranted by the unnatural conditions under which candidates labour when examined. We are happy to say that division of the examination is now generally accepted as desirable. The Pharmaceutical Council so declared in February, and one of the objects of Clause 7 is to give the Pharmaceutical Council power to divide the examination. Although that power is sought, we think it is not required, because there is nothing in the charter of the Pharmaceutical Society nor in the Pharmacy Acts to prevent the Boards of Examiners referring back any candidates in any subjects in which they are weak. This would amount to division, and is the form of relief that is immediately desired.

The examinations under the diploma-scheme of the Spectacle-makers' Company were held in March and November. As a result, fifteen pharmaceutical chemists and chemists and druggists have been added to the roll of the Company. The proportion of chemists who pass the examinations is increasing; at the November examinations, out of twenty-four successful candidates, eleven are on the Pharmaceutical Registers. The statistics of the examinations since their commencement in 1898 show that of 140 holders of the diploma, eighty-three are chemists.

One of the most serious disputes of the year within the Pharmaceutical Society refers to the interpretation of the by-law which gives the Boards of Examiners and the Council power to re-examine a candidate who has failed to attend an examination through illness on payment of a nominal fee of 1s. There does not appear to have been any difficulty about the matter, although the Minor examination was split into practical and oral portions. When candidates occasionally became ill between the two portions, the Board in England treated such candidates as having attended and failed, so that they had to pay the three-guinea fee on re-entry. The Scotch Board had a case of the kind in 1899, and treated it on the shilling basis, whereupon a dispute arose between the Board and the Secretary of the Society. As a result of negotiations it was decided to make a definite ruling on the matter, the Scotch view to be adopted. Details of the whole dispute have been fully given in the *C. J. D.*, but we may recall that the shilling by-law was so amended as to make a guinea the fee in such cases. The amended by-laws were read by the Council twice in July, again in August, and were approved by the members of the Society at a special general meeting held in August. As soon as it was realised in Scotland that the shilling fee had been wiped out, a "sold" feeling arose, and a petition to the Privy Council was got up and signed by 600 chemists and their assistants and apprentices. This asked the Council to withhold consent to



the amended by-laws. As yet they have not been approved of by the Privy Council. Meanwhile, Professor Bayley Balfour, one of the Scotch Board, resigned office as a protest. The matter is not yet settled, for one Scotch candidate who paid the three guineas is suing the Pharmaceutical Society in the Court of Session for restoration of 3*l.* 2*s.* paid, he alleges, in excess of the sum required by by-law. While all this dispute has been going on, dissatisfaction has also been growing in Scotland as to the management of the Pharmaceutical Society. The executive finds it is in the condition of those who have no work to do, and it is alleged the Scotch business of the Society is conducted as if there were no branch in Scotland. The executive has made representations to

#### THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL.

in regard to the matter, and a committee of that body is now considering it with a view to finally adjusting the relations between the North and the South. The Council has undergone a remarkable change during the year. Mr. Glyn-Jones was as a voice crying in the wilderness until the election approached, when he, as the mouthpiece of a considerable number of members of the Society, suggested that new blood should be infused by returning four members who had not previously sat upon the Council and were safe on the company-question. Immediately after the April meeting, the health of the President (Mr. William Martindale) broke down, and he was ordered to take a voyage to South Africa. While he was away the election-fever reached a high temperature. There were seventeen candidates for the seven vacancies, and of the new candidates Messrs. Campkin, Cooper, Currie, Gibbons, Gifford, Taylor, and Wootton seemed the likely men to come to the top. But Mr. Glyn-Jones's committee ran Messrs. Cooper, Gibbons, Taylor, and Wootton only, and, after a hot contest, the seven members actually returned to the Council were Messrs. Walter Hills, Charles Symes, A. C. Wootton, David Storrar, Albert Cooper, W. G. Cross, and John Taylor—in that order. Messrs. Walter Gibbons and R. L. Gifford were also ahead in votes of three old members of Council who were defeated—namely, Messrs. T. Bateson, N. M. Grose, and W. Warren. The success of three of the quartette pledged to deal promptly with the company-question was a startling surprise to Bloomsbury, and was a particularly sad blow to those who exhibited animus against the quartette, especially Mr. Wootton. Looking back upon the contest, and knowing the increased energy of the Council since and the perfect harmony which appears to exist between the old and new members thereof, we cannot but conclude that the infusion of new blood has been good for the Society, and we hope that a further dose will be given in 1901. During Mr. Martindale's absence in South Africa Mr. Newsholme, the Vice-President, performed the duties of the presidential chair with such satisfaction to his colleagues that when a new President came to be selected Mr. Newsholme was unanimously appointed, and he therefore has the unique distinction of being the first provincial pharmacist to receive this high honour. Mr. C. B. Allen, a London pharmacist, who has had long experience of Council work, was elected to the vice-chair. In consequence of the rush for the examinations before the new conditions came into force, the Council has found itself with a more comfortable balance at the bank than it has had for many years.

#### DISPENSERS AND DISPENSING.

One of the last bits of work that Mr. Walter Hills did as President of the Pharmaceutical Society was to negotiate with the Admiralty respecting naval-hospital dispenserships. This bore good fruit, as this year the Admiralty increased the salaries of the dispensers, and made chemists and

druggists (Great Britain) eligible to have charge of stores—a post previously filled solely by pharmaceutical chemists. It will be remembered that in 1899 Mr. Glyn-Jones asked the Pharmaceutical Council to inquire into dispensing in doctors' surgeries, and the General Medical Council was also addressed on the matter. A special committee of the G.M.C. reported that they did not see any reason for interfering with the employment of unqualified dispensers by medical practitioners. There the matter rested; but early this year a new issue was raised by the Pharmaceutical Council appealing to the General Medical Council in regard to the employment by Scotch medical men of unqualified assistants in open shops. Some forty cases of the kind were detailed, and in many of them the assistants had been fined for the sale of poisons. The question arose whether the medical men employing such assistants were not inciting them to break the Pharmacy Act. A test-case was heard by the Medical Council at the meeting in December, and it was decided that the medical man should have an opportunity of mending his ways; in other words, the Council is inclined to move that such conduct is "disgraceful in a professional respect," and therefore practitioners so acting may have their names erased from the register. Immense indignation has been created in Glasgow by the resolution, and it is too soon yet to tell what will be the final result, for the doctor's-shop system is so deeply rooted in that quarter that it will take a strong hand to uproot it.

Mr. Glyn-Jones returned to the subject of the employment of unqualified dispensers in November, and persuaded his colleagues on the Pharmaceutical Council to institute an inquiry regarding the qualifications of persons engaged as dispensers in the army, public institutions, and elsewhere. This looks like his 1899 idea in a new form, and is apparently occasioned by the fact that the War Office, consequent upon the war in South Africa, invited chemists' assistants and other dispensers to volunteer for service in South Africa as compounders. Comparatively little attention was paid to the qualification of those who were appointed to the position, and it was shown through numerous communications to this journal that the conditions of service were derogatory to the best interests of pharmacists, consequently we urged at the beginning of the year that as soon as the war was over the pharmaceutical societies should take steps to have a proper understanding with the Government authorities on this important question. During the past month several disgraceful cases of improper dispensing in doctors' surgeries have been reported, and we trust that Mr. Glyn-Jones's committee will investigate these as well as the more general question involved in the resolution.

#### CHEMISTS AS DENTISTS.

The General Medical Council at its meeting in December, 1899, passed a resolution regarding advertising by dentists. At the spring meeting of this year two dentists were called before the Council to answer charges of infamous conduct in a professional respect by reason that they had advertised. One of these gentlemen was a chemist and druggist who was registered as a dentist, in virtue of having been in practice before the Act passed. The names of both were removed from the dentists' register, and the General Medical Council sent to every dentist on the register a copy of the resolution referred to. The Council does not say that no advertising shall be done by dentists, simply that advertising may go beyond the bounds of strict professionalism. The Royal College of Surgeons of England has again had the question of dental titles under consideration, chiefly in respect to the use by dentists without a diploma of such titles as "R.D.S.," and appears to be inclined to carry the matter further.



## OLD LAWS AND NEW.

The legal cases decided during the year have been exceptionally numerous, especially under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. On January 1 the new Act, which gave a wider definition of the term "food," came into force.

Adulteration. In consequence a very large number of prosecutions respecting alum in baking-powder and similar articles have been heard and decided. In not a single instance has the assertion of the prosecution that such powders are injurious to health been disputed. The new B.P. standards have also been the cause of many prosecutions. In regard to camphorated oil, two important High Court decisions have been obtained during the year. In the first the firm of grocers, who were sued under Section 6 of the 1875 Act for selling weak oil, argued that the case should have been taken under Section 7, which deals with compounded drugs. The County Court Judge took that view, but Justices Channell and Bucknill held that the oil does not come within the exception. The second decision was in respect to the division of the sample. An inspector bought six 2*l.* bottles of camphorated oil and left two of the bottles with the seller as a third of the purchase. The Magistrates' Clerk advised that this was not proper division, and, on appeal to the High Court, Justices Darling and Bucknill decided on May 21 that the division was not made according to the statute.

It has been established in several cases in England that light carbonate of magnesia is the article which the public require for "magnesia," and summonses have been dismissed accordingly. In the south of England a variation has been given to the matter by the purchase of "heavy magnesia" (an article rarely asked for by the public), but these ventures suffered a similar fate, although in one the pharmacist demonstrated that the article supplied was heavy calcined magnesia which had absorbed carbonic acid through exposure incident to storage. Such cases as these show a tendency on the part of the authorities to take vexatious proceedings. That "magnesia" is a doubtful designation in retail trade is common knowledge; on the other hand, the use of magnesium carbonate for Gregory's powder is unwarranted, and, although the Watford Magistrates in September dismissed a summons in respect to such powder, several convictions elsewhere have been recorded.

The advantages of the Chemists' Defence Association (which secured the High Court decision on the division of the camphorated-oil purchase) were well established in a spirit-of-nitre case heard at North London in June, where the Association's defence of a chemist satisfied the Magistrate that it is practically impossible in dealing out small quantities of the spirit to keep it up to B.P. strength. Previous to that (February) it was successfully contended at a Petty Sessions in Kent that sweet spirit of nitre is a perishable article, and as the analyst did not specify the fact on his certificate, the summons was dismissed. The C.D.A. has also arranged to get a case stated for the High Court as to whether retailers are bound to supply British Pharmacopœia articles when such things as camphorated oil are asked for. There has been much discussion during the

B.P. as a  
Standard.

year on this point. Mr. A. H. Allen, in his report to the West Riding authorities, complained at the beginning of the year that the editor of the B.P. had made it difficult for analysts to use it as a standard, this referring to his speech at Plymouth last year. The Secretary of the C.D.A. and others contend that the B.P. is not to be taken as a standard under the Acts. The matter reached a crisis when the Conference met in London in July, but its aspect in reference to the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts was obscured by discussion as to the place of the

pharmacists on revision of the B.P. Finally the debate was closed in our columns last month when Dr. Atfield replied to Mr. Allen's charge, and after some pretty writing from both of these gifted controversialists the conclusion arrived at made the following points clear—

- (1) The B.P. is not specified in the Acts as a standard.
- (2) It is desirable that it should be taken as the standard when common use does not preclude that action.
- (3) It is undesirable for the Pharmacopœia to official popular medicines until the retailers thereof have full opportunity of considering the standard.

Messrs. Moor and Priest have made further advance with their work on the standards of drugs, dealing chiefly with ash-yields of drugs as imported.

The most sensational cases of the year under the Acts were in respect to the presence of arsenic in sodium phosphate. We mentioned the matter on June 23, and in July two summonses were heard by the Marylebone Magistrate, and fines of 10*l.* and 5*l.* 5*s.* costs in each case were inflicted. These were in respect to the effervescent phosphate. Later, there was a case in Oxford about the phosphate itself. There is no doubt that the arsenic arose from the use of arsenical vitriol in making the phosphate, just as in the cases of arsenical beer recently brought to light in the provinces, the poison was found in one make of glucose. The recent scare is very serious, because scores of people have died from peripheral neuritis as a result of arsenical poisoning.

A general consideration of the year's cases under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, especially in the light of the 1899 Act, indicates that retailers are in a better position now, owing to the proceedings being expedited and a copy of the analyst's certificate being served with the summons; further, that a more common requirement of a warranty from wholesalers is desirable, and that retailers should give closer attention to the deterioration of medicines before sale, and even of deterioration of the sample after purchase for the purposes of the Acts.

Of the general legal cases heard during the year few require reference here. The action by Boots (Limited) against the Printsellers' Association has so far demonstrated that people have a right to combine with a view to maintaining the retail prices of their manufactures, but an appeal on the point is pending. Kodak (Limited) early in the year obtained damages and costs from a dealer who had signed their anti-cutting agreement and broken it, which decision has immensely improved the position of the P.A.T.A.

The trade-right cases include several by the Saccharin Corporation, which have established the validity of their patents, so that finally all the Corporation's antagonists have withdrawn from the fields of litigation and competition. The Valentine Company have successfully established on appeal their contention that a person of the same name should not sell beef-preparations under the name "Valentine" or "Valtine." Trade-mark cases have not been so important as the patent cases, amongst the latter being, besides the saccharin cases, the ionone patent (whose validity is upheld) and the electrolytic-alkali processes of Castner-Kellner and Rhoden, the latter being considered by the House of Lords not to be an infringement of the former.

Some fifty measures were carried through Parliament last Session. Legislators were not in a mood for much work. Parliament was going in its sixth year, and was moribund; the General Election actually took place in October, and the Unionist Government was returned as strong as ever. The only person connected with the drug-trade in the House of Commons is Sir James Haslett; several others tried, but failed. Still the feeling remains that pharmacists need one or two more members who from personal experience can



appreciate what the interests of the drug-trade are. Last Session's legislation was not much more important in value than it was in volume. A slight amendment of the Veterinary Surgeons Act was secured, the object being to make those holding the veterinary diploma of the Highland and Agricultural Society amenable to the disciplinary powers of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The Midwives Bill looked like passing at one time, and actually weathered the Committee stage in the House of Commons; but this was more through chance than good guiding. Bills dealing with petroleum and shops failed to meet the approval of legislators. In short, the accomplishment of the

Companies Act.

Session, so far as trade is concerned, was the Companies Act, which comes into force on January 1, 1901. We have already referred to the fate of the pharmacy and medical clauses of the Bill, which Mr. Ritchie contended were foreign to the measure. As it now stands, the Act is one for preventing certain abuses incident to the formation of limited companies, or otherwise to protect the interests of investors and creditors. It suppresses the needy but titled guinea-pig director by requiring all persons who are to act as directors of a company to give their written authority to act as directors, and must also in writing recognise their liability to pay for the shares, if any, which by the articles of association qualify them for the position; and they become personally liable to allottees and to the company for contraventions of the conditions laid down in the statute. It will not be possible in future for a company to carry on business without a director of some kind, for the Act stipulates that "the expression 'director' includes any person occupying the position of a director by whatever name called." In this and other respects the Act is retrospective. Again, it requires the promoters of a company to state on the prospectus the minimum amount upon which they will go to allotment, and if that amount is not subscribed the promotion fails, and the first instalments have to be returned to the subscribers. This, of course, does not apply to private or family companies. The Act also specifies what contracts shall be explained in the prospectus, and makes stringent regulations as to the payment of commissions and underwriting expenses—in short, the bogus-company promoter will find it more difficult than hitherto to conceal his hand. Then every new limited company will be required *before commencing business* to furnish to its members and to file with the Registrar a statement detailing the number of shares allotted, the cash received for them, an abstract of the receipts and payments of the company on capital account to date, and a statement of the preliminary expenses incurred, the names and addresses of directors, auditors (if any), manager (if any), and secretary of the company, and certain other particulars. In consequence of the retrospective nature of the Act, it will be necessary for old companies to note that within two months of January 1, 1901, all directors must qualify, as the new Act requires, or vacate office. New issues come within the new regulations as to allotment, commission, and prospectus. Mortgages or charges (1) to secure debentures, (2) on uncalled capital, (3) of the same effect as a bill of sale, and (4) any floating charge on the property or undertaking of the company must be registered in the case of old as well as new companies, also they must furnish the annual abstract and appoint auditors.

In view of the new Act coming into force there has recently been a run upon company-registration, and it is noticeable that many companies remotely connected with the drug-trade, or not connected with it at all, are taking power to trade as chemists and druggists—in fact, this form

of registration is becoming so common as to rival in volume registration under the Pharmacy Acts, hence the urgent necessity of securing some measure of control upon this specific point by a new enactment.

#### THE PRACTICE OF PHARMACY.

A summary of the year's achievements in practical pharmacy is not possible in the space available to us, but some good work has been done, and most of the best has been published through the British Pharmaceutical Conference, which met in London in the last week of July, under the presidency of Mr. E. M. Holmes, the

eminent pharmacognosist. Twenty-three papers were communicated, the more notable being a criticism of B.P. chemistry by Dr. F. B. Power, papers on melting-points, terebene, and liq. ferri perchlor. from the Tyer Research Laboratories, notes on almond oils by Messrs. Allen and Brewis, an elaborate examination of strophanthus by Mr. Perrédès, and notes on the ash-yields of drugs by Messrs. Moor and Priest. Those papers which enabled speakers to discuss the British Pharmacopœia as a standard were best appreciated, for the talkers were quick on that subject, and the editor of the B.P. was present to be heckled. The Pharmaceutical Society and a few provincial associations have been the means of giving publicity to some minor researches, but these together do not reach the volume of the B.P.C.'s work. It is especially noteworthy that provincial associations are growing in strength and utility; they make trade interests and good fellowship their principal objects, and as the system of reporting such meetings is now perfected through the exigencies of the competitive journalism of the day, the associations have a strength which was undreamt of a generation ago. Moreover, they are not isolated units, but have a strong linkage through the publicity referred to, and especially through the federation, which has got the knack of securing simultaneous expression of opinion on the larger trade topics. With such diversity of interests it is but natural that the progress of pharmacy is becoming more and more the heritage of those associated with pharmaceutical factories. A good instance of this fact was given no later than last week, when of five who wrote in our columns on liquid extract of cascara sagrada, four were wholesalers. It has not infrequently been said that the British Pharmacopœia is a wholesalers' Pharmacopœia,

because the processes are more elaborate than the majority of retailers can carry out. It is peculiar that substantially the same charge

has been brought against the new edition of the German Pharmacopœia which was published in August. The methods of testing adopted therein are frequently of such a character as to be almost the speciality of a few chemists, and the whole tendency of the work is to throw responsibility upon the manufacturer, for in Germany pharmacists are, as in Great Britain, buying more and more ready-made preparations. The new Pharmacopœia reflects this condition, and it inevitably follows that as manufacturing of galenicals is transferred to wholesalers, and the processes are improved and adapted to these special conditions, they are recognised officially. To much of the criticism of the B.P. which has been printed Dr. Attfield replied in a "Digest of Criticisms," which was published by the General Medical Council in July and presented to each of the critics. Dr. Attfield also, as editor of the Colonial and Indian Addendum, completed the compilation of that work, and it has been quite recently summarised in our pages. It must be regarded as tentative, especially as a test of the need for an Imperial British Pharmacopœia—which was its real intention. We yet await the



opinion of Greater Britain on that matter; but the fact that the British Pharmacopœia itself is adopted in most of the extra European parts of the Empire is sufficient evidence that the work should be, as far as possible, adapted to local needs. In that work colonial and Indian pharmacists should insist upon having a recognised right to express their opinion while the matter is still in embryo, for if they wait, as pharmacists at home have waited, they will find their services engaged in the matter as employes, and *that* is not a position good enough for pharmacists.

#### PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTRY.

The chemistry of the alkaloids has, as usual, attracted a fair amount of attention during the past year. Amongst the most important of the work achieved we may congratulate ourselves that an English chemist has set the pace to the Germans in the excellent results on the constitution of pilocarpine obtained by Jowett. His work, and in a less degree that of Pinner, will no doubt before long throw considerable light on the chemistry of this difficult base. Considerable light has also been thrown on one of the obscure opium alkaloids, laudanosine, by the researches of Pictet, who has also recently succeeded in converting ordinary nicotine into a mixture of the active isomers. Schryver's investigation of the derivatives of morphine promises to be of value. Hitherto the hydroxyl of the molecule has been attacked in this connection, but Schryver is endeavouring to substitute the hydrogen atoms of the morpholine ring, and so far has obtained chloromorphide and bromomorphide. One of the most important investigations of active principles has been that of Tschirch on the sennas. We gave a detailed account of these researches at the time, and need not further refer to them except to point out that he proved that the oxymethylantraquinone derivatives, to which this group owes its purgative action, occur to a greater extent in Alexandrian senna than they do in Tinnevely. The same chemist brought to a successful conclusion a research on the active principles of *Rhamnus cathartica*. The papers on the chemistry of rhubarb and araroba by Hesse are of allied interest. Amongst his results it is shown that commercial chrysophanic acid is quite free from the true body of that name. The various crystalline bodies in these drugs were isolated in a state of great purity, and have been carefully examined.

Although the researches of Königs have not brought us much nearer the actual constitution of quinine, they must be classed as among the best alkaloidal work of the year, and the long association of this chemist with the cinchona alkaloids must inevitably assist the ultimate solution of the problem. Some useful results on the presence of thiocarbimides in certain glucosides have been obtained by Meulen. It is well known that benzyl cyanide was found in the essential oil of *Tropæolum majus* by Hofmann, but the work of Meulen goes far to show that the cyanide in this and other oils of a similar character is due to the prolonged action of the boiling water used in the distillation on the thiocarbimide. Leger has made a comprehensive examination of the aloins, and has shown that pure barbaloin does not yield Klunge's reaction as hitherto believed. He recrystallised the barbaloin from methyl alcohol repeatedly, and found that after each successive recrystallisation the product gave a fainter reaction. After seven recrystallisations it no longer gave any reaction, and the disturbing element was found to be iso-barbaloin, for which Klurge's reagent is therefore characteristic. The chemistry of the corydalis alkaloids has just received another stimulus in the results obtained by Dobbie, in which he has established the relation between corydaline and corybulbine. Hesse has made some

further useful contributions to our knowledge of the alkaloids of the *Solanaceæ*. Numerous new alkaloids have been discovered and examined, but space does not allow our further reference to them.

#### PURE CHEMISTRY.

Our *résumé* of the year's progress in pure organic chemistry, as apart from special portions of interest to pharmacy, must of necessity be of an eclectic nature. The work of Stiehl on citral last year was soon found to be somewhat doubtful. His three alleged isomers of citral were early shown to have no existence; but the final explanation of the anomalous behaviour of the "citral" was left to the genius of Tiemann, who only just lived to see his work published. In brief, there are two stereoisomeric citrals of almost identical physical characters, but which yield derivatives with well-defined differences. The details of the work leading to these results are of a classical nature, and may be regarded as the finish of that great chemist's life-work, led up to by the intense interest that the ionone question attracted.

The annual publication of the revised atomic weights of the elements by the committee of the German Chemical Society is now an important event of the chemical year. That of the present year brought forward alterations in the atomic weights of the following elements: cadmium (112), cobalt (59), neodymium (144), praseodymium (140), thorium (232), and zirconium (90.6). In England much attention has been attracted to this question by the masterly researches of Dean and of Scott on the atomic weight of nitrogen. At present, however, the classic work of Stas is still accepted as the standard, and no evidence of any substantial difference from his figure has been adduced.

An important piece of work, which should ultimately have a direct bearing on alkaloidal synthesis, is the artificial preparation of hygric acid from ethyl bromopropylmalonate—a synthesis which should assist in rapidly disclosing the constitution of that group of natural products to which it belongs. In the realms of speculative chemistry, a branch of the science which is at present more ornamental than useful, the most fascinating work of the year is the hypotheses put forward, and to an extent supported by experimental research, by our countryman Hewitt on the causes of fluorescence. This work may some day play an important part in the chemistry of dyestuffs unless, indeed, it gives place to some newer hypothesis. The constitution of camphor has, as usual, attracted much attention this year, but, although there has been much useful work accomplished it has brought us no nearer the question at issue than we were with the theorising of Tiemann and Bredt.

In analytical chemistry we may draw attention to the impetus given to methods of arsenic-testing, due in the first instance to the sensational discovery of arsenic in sodium phosphate, and followed by the far more serious occurrence of the same poison in beer. The difficulties raised by the unsatisfactory terms of the new Sale of Food and Drugs Act in reference to margarine mixtures have given rise to a series of very exhaustive experiments on the analysis of butter mixtures. These have been carried out by a committee of the Society of Public Analysts, in conjunction with Dr. Thorpe, head of the Somerset House Laboratory, and have led to an agreement in the methods of analysis between the Government analysts and those appointed to carry out the Act by the Vestries. This step is the most important that has been taken in the direction of unification of methods for many years past. Equally important are the attempts to unify the methods of analysis of cinchona-barks, a subject which received ample attention at the Congress of Applied Chemistry held in Paris this year.



## FRATERNITY.

The International Exhibition opened at Paris in April and closed in November has been one of the landmarks of the year. In artistic excellence and general completeness it is considered to have overtopped any of the previous efforts in that direction by the French nation. The sections devoted to chemistry, pharmacy, and perfumery contained exhibits of much excellence from most of the civilised nations of the earth. The French and German sections were the biggest, but representative British firms carried off a fair proportion of the awards. The Exhibition Number of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* was published on June 30, and the award-list on August 25. The exhibition has caused a segregation of international congresses in the French capital. Every imaginable science and art had its special congress. At the end of July there was a congress of applied chemistry presided over by M. Henri Moissan, the finale of the Congress consisting of the unveiling of the Lavoisier monument.

The International Congress of Pharmacy was held in the following week (August 2-10), but Britain was meagrely represented, and the British and Irish Pharmaceutical Societies not at all, although almost all other European nations were officially represented. One of the accomplishments of this Congress was the unveiling of a monument to Pelletier and Caventou, the discoverers of quinine. The papers read at the Congress cannot be said to have surpassed the standard of those read before the British Pharmaceutical Congress, but the opportunities afforded for international courtesies are not the least of the advantages of the meeting. The project of an International Pharmacopœia slightly progressed at this meeting, a committee having been appointed to draw up a comparative report on the potent preparations of the official pharmacopœias of the world.

## THE WAR

has been the absorbing topic of the year. We have already noted the call for Volunteer compounders, and the excellent response from the drug-trade. So great an interest was taken in the features of the war that we found it necessary for the first time in the history of the *C. & D.* to devote a section of columns weekly to war-matter. It is unnecessary, therefore, to do more than mention the main features, which began first with the purchase, and, later, the commandeering of medical surgical supplies from the chemists of Johannesburg. The drug-trade throughout this country contributed liberally to the various war-funds, the hospital-ship *Maine* was equipped by American sympathisers, and the sons of historic drug-houses went cheerfully to the front to help in the struggle. The effect of the war upon trade generally was depressing, and South Africa was for months almost entirely shut off from commercial activity. The continuation of the struggle is harassing many eager spirits who are ready to flood the newly-acquired territory with their wares; but great recompense is looked for in that future when the country will once more be opened up under, it is hoped, better conditions for the pursuit of commerce.

The war has had a strong influence upon trade. Some wholesale houses and surgical-dressings manufacturers have literally been working night and day to keep pace with War Office orders. Business generally during the first half of the year was far above the average, but as the summer was receding there came a big falling-off, and things have been quiet since September. This is partly due to the Parliamentary election, but the long period of stagnation in certain branches of retail trading consequent upon the war suggests that we are reaching the bottom of the wave of prosperity, so that it will be a few months still before much improvement is felt.

## TRADE EVENTS.

In March the Chancellor of the Exchequer added an additional duty of 6*d.* per gallon on spirit of wine, which compelled manufacturers of spirituous preparations and others to advance their prices. The Chancellor also proposed the taxation of produce contract-notes by means of a 1*s.* stamp, but his scheme provoked such a storm of opposition in Mincing Lane and elsewhere that a deputation waited on the Chancellor, and eventually the proposal was abandoned. By proclamation in January the Government declared that phenol and allied products should not be exported or carried coastwise. The object of this proclamation was to prevent foreign countries from getting supplies of the crude material for the manufacture of picric-acid explosives. At the time it seemed likely that Britain would have to face a more formidable enemy than the South African Republics, and the proclamation was, perhaps, made with undue haste. At all events, chemical brokers, merchants, and manufacturers of the proclaimed articles were brought together, and, as a result of the information that they supplied to the Government, the proclamation was withdrawn. This incident sufficed to bring out the fact that Germany was our largest buyer of phenol, it being used chiefly in the manufacture of salicylic acid and other synthetic products, and it appeared that a beginning had been made with the manufacture of synthetic phenol from benzine.

During the eleven months ended November our imports of all kinds have increased by 32,936,683*l.* Our exports for the same period have increased by 25,217,176*l.*, but 14,500,000*l.* of this amount is made up of coal. It is wonderful how the exports of "drugs and medicinal preparations" go on increasing; the figures are now well over a million, or 85,000*l.* more than last year. South Africa and China are no doubt responsible for this, but after the war there will be a glut of orders for the Transvaal and Orange River Colony.

The condition under which business is now conducted in the Port of London is rapidly going from bad to worse. At the present time it is aggravated by the strike of lightermen, which has lasted for over two months, and seems no nearer the end. That it has proved a serious menace to trade is not questioned, and we know of several instances where importers have lost their market through the non-delivery of goods. A delay of three weeks to a month before delivery of goods is obtained has not been uncommon during the strike. Under normal conditions the delays are vexatious enough and the dock-charges excessive, so much so that trade is being driven to other ports. Many exporters to the United States now ship their goods *via* Southampton, and reap considerable advantage in doing so, as London is said to be the most expensive port in the world. Business-men place little faith in Royal Commissions, and do not expect any relief from the present one.

German  
Tariff.

During the coming year Germany is to revise and recast her import-tariff, and indications point to a general advance of duties on most manufactured products which Germany can now produce at home, and these changes are likely to exert an important influence on future trade-relations with this country. The agricultural question is at the bottom of it, and the German farmer demands the abrogation of existing commercial treaties, and that import-duties on grains and other food-products shall be so advanced as to cut off the present imports which are swamping the market. Truly the British farmer is in a like position.

In the centre of the produce-world—Mincing Lane—business has been fair on the whole. In regard to



## CRUDE DRUGS

a change in the public offerings was inaugurated this year, alternate auctions of "new" and "new and old" goods being held fortnightly. The scheme has done good, as less time is wasted, and everybody shows a desire to get through the business quickly. Fluctuations in value have been numerous, but prices generally have been well maintained, especially for leading staples like benzoin, ipecac., cardamoms, and senna. Cape aloes, in spite of the war, has been in good supply, but the drug faced a rising market until June, when the best qualities reached 30s. per cwt.; it then began to decline at successive auctions from September onwards, when 23s. 6d. to 24s. was reached, owing to regular supplies. Curaçao aloes in gourds has been in good supply, but in many instances forced sales were made at low prices. Large gourds of fine liver on two occasions brought 50s. and 56s. Good Socotrine aloes in kegs has varied not more than 2s. 6d. in price, and so-called East African aloes has been a failure on this market, low figures ruling. An absence of unadulterated drop asafetida has been noticed this year. The highest price paid for good pinky block was 80s. to 81s. in April. In balsams, with the exception of copaiba, values have been lower. Peru has been neglected, and closes at a reduction of quite 1s. per lb. Tolu is also cheaper by 4d. to 6d. There has been a steady demand for benzoin, particularly Sumatra, of which the imports have considerably increased. On the other hand there has been an absence of Penang gum, and smaller supplies of Siam. Buchu-leaves have been exceedingly scarce during the year, owing to the war. In January sound leaves sold at 1s. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., but in May they had dropped to 6d.; from this time onwards they advanced at each successive auction, reaching 1s. 2d. in November, and closing at 1s. in December.

*Cannabis indica* has been a feature this year, owing to the imposition of an export-duty from India. High prices have again been paid for cascarrilla, bold quill realising 75s. in January, but in December 62s. was paid for similar quality. Notwithstanding increased imports, cardamoms have sold exceptionally well throughout, fine bold selected Mysore opening at 3s. 10d., rising to 4s. 5d. in April, and declining to 4s. 3d. in December. Seeds have fluctuated considerably, up to 2s. 9d. being paid in November. The better prices paid last year for colocynth have been maintained, for good Turkey apple sold at 1s. 6d. in July, and white pulp has sold up to 5s. 6d. per lb. Croton-seeds were offered freely at auction, and occasionally sold at considerably lower values again, the supplies being excessive. Violent fluctuations in cubebs provided a little excitement in the middle of the year, owing to speculation and rumours of short crops in Java. From 22s. in February values advanced to 40s. in July, and 60s. in August, which stopped business until November, when brown berries sold at 35s. Fine dragon's-blood has been lower in price owing to more regular supplies from Singapore. On the other hand elemi is so scarce that 7l. to 7l. 15s. was paid for it in May, and 12l. 5s. in June. This was an exceptional sale, as the value is about 7l. privately.

More attention than usual has been paid to ergot owing to the failure of the crops, and there have been many fluctuations. For Spanish and Russian the highest price paid was 3s. in January and February. Prices are now quite 6d. lower. Persian galls have not been so scarce, and blues have fallen from 100s. to 70s., while to arrive considerably lower prices have been accepted. Gamboge has occupied an anomalous position, as, although imports have decreased by 125 cases (67 against 192), the demand fell away for several months running. Fine picked pipe, however, has been scarce at from 9l. to 9l. 10s. The imports of guaiacum in

drop have been considerably less this year, and the fact that an export-duty has been placed on the gum in Hayti may still further lessen the imports during the coming year, so that the slight fall in value must be reckoned as temporary. Guinea grains have been most erratic; from 7l. 12s. 6d. paid in May they fell to 85s. in July, and October saw them sold in auction at 32s.

Although ipecac. values have not been maintained at so high a level as last year (when 17s. was paid for Rio root), they have not been allowed to decline violently. For Rio 12s. 6d. was paid in January, but in February a decline to 9s. 6d. (the lowest point of the year) was chronicled. The drug quickly recovered, and was back again at 12s. 6d. in May, from which period it has gradually eased month by month, until in November there was a drop of 1s. 6d., 10s. 3d. being paid for bold, which figure now holds good. Cartagena opened the year at 8s., rising to 8s. 6d. in May, and dropping to 7s. 6d. in August. In September it was again at 8s. 6d., owing to the receipt of news that it would be admitted into the United States if of satisfactory alkaloidal content. Since then it has gradually weakened as arrivals came along, until to-day it is obtainable at 6s. 6d. to 7s. per lb. Jalap slightly advanced in June, when 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. was paid. Kino has kept at a low figure, values ranging from 1s. to 1s. 9d.

Business in menthol has this year become concentrated in fewer hands, and a speculative tendency has developed in a well-known brand, to the detriment of several other less-known marks. Opening the year at 10s. 3d., menthol gradually dropped to 7s. 6d. in May, at which period the market was weak. It recovered slightly in June, and since then there has been an uninterrupted forward movement, until to-day the spot price stands at 13s. This is one of the few articles cheaper on the spot than for forward delivery.

Orris has fluctuated much. At the beginning of the year picked Florentine was 48s. to 50s., but advanced to 56s. in June. Then in October came a slump, 38s., c.i.f., being quoted, so that it looks as if the syndicate had little control over prices.

The Chinese trouble has certainly not interfered with the shipments of rhubarb this year; indeed, they slightly exceed those of 1899. Very little fine Shensi has been offered, and prices have ruled low. Saffron is cheaper than it was in January. Grey Jamaica sarsaparilla has fluctuated between 1s. 6d. and 1s. 8d., supplies being small owing to trouble in Columbia. Scammony-root has also been scarcer, and values are higher. The quality of the Tinnevely senna imported this year has fallen off, but prices have been well maintained. Fine leaf has been very scarce, 6d. being the maximum for bold. Alexandrian senna has been neglected, and sales are only made at a sacrifice. This is mainly owing to the fact that America now purchases in the Egyptian market. Jamaica wax has been a little scarcer, and on one occasion 8l. was paid for it.

## CINCHONA AND QUININE.

The year 1899 ought to be a memorable one for quinine-speculators, as the article has again proved a veritable will-o'-the-wisp. The makers have done their best to stem the tide of speculation by refusing to make contracts with speculators, but they have only been partially successful. At the first cinchona-auctions in Amsterdam an average of 8 90c. per unit was paid, but at the second one the price advanced to 10 65c., dropping to 10 05c. at the third, and rising to 10 10c. at the fourth. From this period to the eighth auction in September there was an uninterrupted advance to 12 25c. (the highest point touched). In November the unit dropped to 10 90c., and again this month to 8c. The gradual advance from 10 10c. to 12 25c. was due to a falling-off in bark-shipments from Java, but unexpectedly large shipments



were made during September, October, and November. There was then a deficiency of 1,100,000 Amst. lbs., to make up before the year closes, of which 470,000 was wiped off in the first half of this month. Meanwhile, the second-hand quinine-market has been influenced by every little wind that blew; but makers have been very passive, only raising their price when absolutely compelled, and at one period an advance of  $\frac{1}{2}d.$  was made when quite  $2d.$  had been expected. Prices are  $2d.$  cheaper to-day than in January. The notable alterations by makers were a reduction of  $2d.$  in April and one of  $3d.$  in December. The highest figure of the year was  $1s. 7d.$ , in September, at which time the second-hand market stood at  $1s. 6\frac{3}{4}d.$  spot—also the highest.

## OILS.

With the numerous essential and fixed oils we must deal briefly. Otto of rose is one of the most important of these, as, owing to an exceptionally large crop in Bulgaria, the new season opened at the lowest prices on record; but since then the market has considerably improved. In August we gave special information from Bulgaria on the position of otto, and those who took advantage of the prices then ruling will have had no reason to regret their purchases. Essential oils of lemon, orange, and bergamot have had a substantial advance, that of lemon in particular, the crop having been some 25 per cent. smaller than that of last year. Well-known brands of lemon oil were quoted in January at  $3s. 3d.$ , but now as much as  $4s.$  and more is wanted. The year's harvest of American peppermint was unsatisfactory, as a much smaller area has been cultivated in Michigan and New York State, but, owing to stocks held by producers and middlemen, improved prices have only lately become an actual fact. Taking the spot-price as the basis, and HGH as the standard, the lowest value in January was  $5s. 1\frac{1}{2}d.$ , when a slow advance was initiated. It was not until October that any appreciable rise occurred, when  $5s. 9d.$  was quoted, and this month  $5s. 11d.$  has been paid. Japanese peppermint has not benefited to a like extent, although prices are higher on the year. English growers turned out a good yield of peppermint this year, contrary to expectations, and the value has consequently remained low. The production of lemongrass oil has decreased, the exports from Cochin from June 30, 1899, to July 1, 1900, being 2,800 cases, against 3,550 cases for a like period of 1898-99. The spot-price has risen from  $2\frac{3}{4}d.$  to  $4\frac{1}{4}d.$ , although for the greater part of the year the market has been dull. Chinese oils of star-anise and cassia have shown little excitement. Clove oil has advanced from  $2s. 8d.$  to  $2s. 11d.$ , and oil of sweet almonds from  $1s. 9d.$  to  $2s.$

## PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMICALS.

Citric acid is from  $1\frac{1}{2}d.$  to  $2d.$  per lb. higher than in January, but values have been on a much lower level than those prevailing in 1899. The highest price paid was  $1s. 5d.$  in February. Concentrated lemon-juice has remained high throughout the year, and this fact has led to a diminished output on the part of makers, who at no period seemed anxious for business. Tartaric acid, unlike citric, has remained steady, English crystals closing  $\frac{3}{4}d.$  dearer. During the past two or three months there has been a scarcity of foreign stuff, and a slight advance has been made. Cream of tartar is dearer than in January—*e.g.*, B.P. crystals were then offered at  $79s.$ , now  $82s.$  is quoted, and other grades have risen in proportion.

In July, when the bismuth-combination advanced prices  $2s. 6d.$  for metal and  $2s.$  for salts. Makers of bromides found it necessary to raise their quotations  $1d.$  in February. In October  $2s.$  per lb. was added to caffeine. A reduction from

$4s.$  to  $2s. 7\frac{1}{2}d.$  in chloral hydrate was made this month, apparently owing to the end of the convention. Cocaine has altered in value four times, and the makers' price to-day for bottom quantities is exactly  $3d.$  per oz. more than in January. There was a reduction of  $2s. 9d.$  and  $1s. 6d.$  in January and February, and an advance of  $1s. 6d.$  and  $3s.$  in August and September.

One of the chief events of the year has been the fruition of the Japanese Government scheme for the conservation of the camphor-industry, which we outlined in March last. As was inevitable, the monopoly which was created has entirely altered the conditions of the market, the speculative market to a great extent having been obliterated. The price was originally fixed at about  $180s.$ , c.i.f., in March, but since then values have considerably advanced,  $190s.$  spot being quoted in November, and "pressed" at  $205s.$  For fluctuations in prices the palm must be given to refiners of German camphor, as no fewer than fifteen alterations have been recorded in 1900. On the other hand, English refiners, who are not influenced by speculators to the same extent, only raised their prices when absolutely necessary, and during the twelve months there have only been four advances, the year opening at  $2s.$  and closing at  $2s. 4\frac{1}{2}d.$

Quicksilver is  $10s.$  per bottle cheaper than it was in January, although the imports have considerably shrunk. In July we reported that Messrs. Rothschild had made a fresh agreement with the Spanish Government for ten years, but the imports have not improved, as the following figures show:—

	1900 Bottles	1899 Bottles	1898 Bottles	1897 Bottles
January-November ...	11,939	51,696	53,759	54,634

The exports for the same period have been:—

	1900 Bottles	1899 Bottles	1898 Bottles	1897 Bottles
January-November ...	24,346	29,165	29,435	27,914

That the metal is scarce is evidenced by the fact that practically no second-hand has been offered for two or three months. Indeed, it has been authoritatively stated by a well-known metal-broker that the Baron himself was filling orders for five-bottle lots. Makers of mercurials altered their prices once only during the year—*viz.*, this month, when a reduction of  $1\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. to meet competition was made. Phenacetin was advanced early in the year from  $3s. 6d.$  to  $5s. 3d.$  The Convention was resumed in December, and immediately the price was reduced to  $4s. 3d.$  In pilocarpine and eserine a substantial advance occurred this month, owing to scarcity of the raw material. In November we reported that the Salicylates Convention was to be dissolved at the end of the year (which fact was not generally known on the London market), and at the time we predicted that it would not be reorganised, and that lower prices might be expected. This has since come about, and a reduced scale of prices agreed upon, but a well-known maker, to whose withdrawal may be partly attributed the break-up of the Convention, is quoting below the revised prices. Salicin was advanced  $3s.$  per 1-lb. tin in January, and santalin  $2s. 5d.$  in November. In January sulphonal moved up by  $3s.$  to  $20s.$  Thymol has scored two advances owing to the scarcity of ajowan-seed. In March there were second-hand sellers at  $9s.$ , whereas  $17s.$  is now asked, makers' price being  $20s.$  There has been no special movement in morphine, although opium has risen, the quotation for powder by makers being about  $5s.$  throughout.

The iodine combination which terminated in March was again renewed after protracted negotiations, but from that time onwards the market has been very unsettled, owing to Japanese competition and outside parcels. It was not



until August that a small reduction of  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  was announced and at the present time outside parcels are being offered *sub rosa*.

#### OBITUARY.

A heavy death has been that of 1900. The mere names of those lost to the drug-trade and its allied industries and allied sciences would fill more than a page of this journal. In January died Col. J. G. F. Richardson, M.D., a former member of the Pharmaceutical Council, and builder of one of the biggest pill-businesses in the world; Mr. Alfred Fennings, the maker of children's powders; Mr. Daniel Frazer, the Nestor of Scottish pharmacy, also a former councillor; Mr. George Lines, of Hertford, one of the founders of the Pharmaceutical Society; and M. Chiris, of Grasse, whose fame as a perfume-maker was world-wide. In February died: Mr. William Powell, head of Goodall, Backhouse & Co., Leeds; Mr. Frederick Ross, the homœopathic chemist; Mr. Alfred Perks, a clever young pharmacist near Worcester; Mr. John Elliott, of Berwick, one of the old school, and noted in the border country for his quaintness and business-ways; Mr. Wm. Thorp, B.Sc., who had filled the chair of the London section of the Society of Chemical Industry; and Mr. Abraham Foster, President of the Dewsbury Chemists' Association. March made heavy calls upon the trade. We then published obituary notices of Mr. Wm. Burley, member of the Scottish Executive of the Pharmaceutical Society; Alderman Joseph Maltby, of Lincoln; Mr. W. J. Sayers, of Lewisham; Mr. James Watt, of Haddington, who was on the Pharmaceutical Council for several years; Miss Sarah J. Street, of Crediton—one of the first Englishwomen to make her living by pharmacy; and many more who had made a mark in pharmacy.

In April we lost one of our great leaders through the death of Mr. Richard Reynolds, of Leeds, and in this month also died Mr. John Hugill, of Meggeson's; Professor Gustave Planchon, director of the Paris School of Pharmacy; Mr. Augustus Bird, who at one time was a pharmaceutical examiner; Mr. E. Constance, a well-known London pharmacist; and Mr. R. J. Downes, ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, an accomplished pharmacist and Councillor. In May Professor Grimaux, the eminent French pharmacist and chemist who maintained that Dreyfus was innocent, died in Paris.

July had just opened when Dr. D. J. Leech, professor of materia medica and therapeutics at Owens College, was called to his rest. He had succeeded Sir R. Quain as Chairman of the British Pharmacopœia Committee, and had an appreciation of pharmaceutical work far beyond what medical men usually have. Mr. Arthur Albright, the phosphorus manufacturer, died in the same week; then followed Mr. John Borland, of Kilmarnock, one of the most accomplished men in British pharmacy. In August Mr. William Wilkinson, of Manchester, died at a ripe old age. He was one of the makers of British pharmacy as it is. In September died Sir John Bennet Lawes, the eminent agricultural chemist, who commenced his career as a chemical manufacturer by making calomel, and was one of the largest makers of citric and tartaric acids in the world.

In October we recorded the death of Sir Henry Acland, M.D., formerly President of the General Medical Council, and an honorary member of the Pharmaceutical Society. In November died Professor Williams, the veterinarian, and Mr. J. Lawson Johnston, the inventor of Bovril, and Mr. Beetham, of Cheltenham. Many have died whose abilities and labours were little known outside the circle in which they moved, yet who, perhaps, have had influence upon their calling, whose power is as great as any of the living or dead. It is such men who live with us in minds made better by their presence.

#### "CREDITOR AS PRINCIPAL."

Under this heading we last week referred to the case of a Cardiff chemist whose business has been the subject of proceedings in the High Court of Justice, and stated that his creditor is not a chemist and druggist. We regret to have fallen into this error. Mr. T. M. Deighton, the plaintiff in the action, is a pharmaceutical chemist of long standing, and it follows that the course which he has taken in conserving the business in Cardiff is perfectly legal and justifiable.

#### THE MANCHESTER CORONER.

We cannot allow the report of the Coroner's inquiry at Manchester (pages 1016 and 1017) to go without protest. The Coroner's statements in regard to the register are not founded on a correct reading of the Act, but we do not understand why he should, with the register before him, have been so confident that Mr. Jesse Boot is a chemist. Mr. Smelt's statement in regard to the name on labels shows unfamiliarity with Section 17 of the Pharmacy Act, which declares that for the purposes of that section, "the seller" is the person on whose behalf the sale is made. Mr. Joseph Oakey was not such a person. We commend to Mr. Smelt a careful perusal of our "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom" before he again ventures to expound the law publicly.

#### PRELIMINARY MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

At the Headmasters' Conference held at Bradford last week, Dr. Wilson, of Lancing, moved: "That it is desirable that there should be greater uniformity and continuity in the standard of work required for the Preliminary medical examinations." He said his object was to introduce some system of order into the chaos of examinations for school-boys going in for the Preliminary medical examination. At present there are fifty-four different examinations in the United Kingdom recognised as taking the place of a Preliminary literary examination for people who wanted to be doctors, and eighty-six in various educational bodies throughout the Empire. Dr. Wilson has since written to the *Times* explaining that the object of his motion was not to do away with the examinations that are at present recognised, but to get instituted one examination which schoolmasters could recognise as the most proper one for entering the medical profession.

## Review.

*Year-Book of Pharmacy*, comprising abstracts of papers relating to pharmacy, materia medica, and chemistry, contributed to British and foreign journals from July 1, 1899, to June 30, 1900, with the "Transactions" of the British Pharmaceutical Conference at the thirty-seventh annual meeting held in London, July 1900. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Pp. 597. London: J. and A. Churchill. 7s. 6d.

THE Committee of Publication of the British Pharmaceutical Conference have again produced their very useful *Year-book* under the editorship of Mr. Louis Siebold. The frontispiece is a portrait of Mr. E. M. Holmes, the President for 1899-1900. The introduction is a concise account of progress in pharmacy and the allied sciences during the year. The other sections are devoted to abstracts of work done in chemistry and materia medica and pharmacy. A third portion is devoted to "Notes and Formulae," after which follows the report of the London Conference. Mr. Perrède's paper on "Strophanthus" is fully illustrated, and has its value as a scientific contribution thereby increased. The papers by Mr. T. Tyrer and Dr. A. Levy on the "Determination of Correct Melting-points," which were only read in abstract before the Conference, are given in full, with the tables and illustrations of the various methods. A new feature of the *Year-book* is a section containing useful information for pharmacists, such as Mr. Bird's alcohol-conversion table, average sp. gr. of B.P. tinctures, and thermometer and solubility tables.





**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

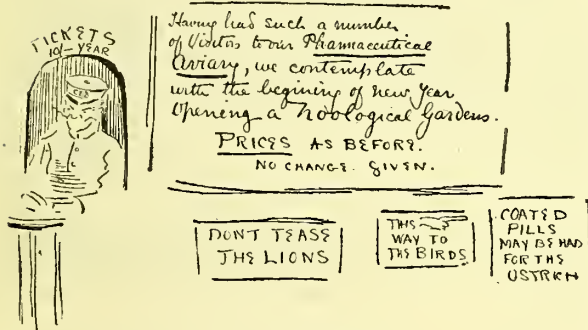
#### He Likes the Birds.

SIR,—I have enjoyed your "Pharmaceutical Aviary" sketches very much: have had the papers sent me regularly.

Yours truly,  
JNO. R. ASKEW,  
Chief Med. Officer, Torkwa-Kumasi Govt.,  
Sekondi, West Africa.

#### The Kittle Keeper.

The man who has charge of the birds referred to in the foregoing letter is probably as well acquainted with Christmas as most of us, and in anticipation sent us the subjoined, which explains the absence of the Pharmaceutical turkey:—



#### A Correction.

SIR,—In your issue of this week there is a paragraph headed "Creditor as Principal." As solicitor for Mr. T. M. Deighton, of Bridgnorth, Shropshire, we wish to point out that the danger set out in your paragraph does not arise in this case, as Mr. T. M. Deighton is a pharmaceutical chemist by examination of over forty years' standing, and served a portion of his time with Mr. Peter Squire, chemist to the Queen, of Oxford Street, besides being interested in several of the largest businesses in various parts of the kingdom. We think it only right to call your attention to the fact, as serious misconception might arise, besides which, we think it only due to the learned Judge that he should not be stated to have taken a step in the wrong course.

Yours faithfully,

TIMBRELL & DEIGHTON.

44 King William Street, London Bridge, E.C.,  
December 22.

[Before we received the above letter we had submitted to Mr. Deighton the paragraph which is printed on page 1048.—EDITOR.]

#### "Open Shop."

SIR,—As I am not aware that this phrase has ever been judicially defined, I have no authority, such as "Xrayser" desires for, attributing to it any definite legal meaning. I do not, indeed, presume to know the legal meaning of any word, having been taught by painful experience that the simplest word may mean just anything which Mr. Justice Stareleigh in a wakeful interval rules that it means. "Seller," for instance, as we all know, means one thing in one clause of a certain Act, and another thing in another clause of the same Act. But as a student of English, I have no hesitation in saying that "open shop" is an abstract term cognate with "open house" and "market overt," and that, as such,

it has neither singular nor plural, but may indicate trading in any number of shops. "Keeping open shop" is, in short, equivalent to shop-keeping." Yours, &c,  
Epworth, December 22.

C. C. BELL.

#### Poisoning Fowls.

SIR,—In my poison-register I find a customer had

1883  
October 2.—2 doz.  $\frac{1}{8}$ -gr. strychnine-pills.  
" 10.—1 doz.  $\frac{1}{8}$ -gr.  
November 4.—2 doz.  $\frac{1}{8}$ -gr. "

These were all given (one three times a day, I believe) to a young Malay cock who was "down on his hocks," and they made him "sit up" and win a prize at the Crystal Palace. He had previously taken a quantity containing  $\frac{1}{16}$  gr. He eventually died from rheumatism, his owner tells me.

Yours truly,

WILTS. (17/44.)

#### Ext. Cascara Sag. Liq.

SIR,—We have read with interest the correspondence on Mr. Blake's analysis of ext. cascara sag. liq. We enclose two analyses of our liquid extract—one by Professor C. R. C. Tichborne, and the other by Mr. Edwin Lapper, F.I.C. Each of the samples analysed was from the same batch of liquid extract. Yet Mr. Lapper reports it as containing 32.7 per cent. of extract, whilst Mr. Tichborne reports 28.8 per cent. In our laboratory journal we find it contained 28.4 grammes of extract in 100 c.c. This particular batch of extract was made with some very fine quality bark five years old. We find that the average amount of extract per 100 c.c. is 26.2 grammes in our manufacture. It is most unfair to Messrs. John Clark & Co., of Belfast, for an analyst to set up an absurd standard and condemn drugs that do not come up to his ideal. We have had similar experience, and it seems to be no use protesting against Mr. Blake's reports, for the Local Government Board hold that his decision is final and conclusive. The contractor has no redress. The only way we see to remedy this state of affairs would be for the L.G.B. to appoint an analyst with an expert knowledge of drugs and pharmaceutical preparations. Let the various analysts' reports be sent to him to report on, also a duplicate of each sample, and then let him advise the Board of Guardians and the L.G.B. At present the L.G.B. have not a man on their premises with an expert knowledge of drugs. In our opinion, an analyst who gives a wrong result should have his appointment cancelled. Two of the Local Government Board's analysts have special knowledge of drugs—viz., Sir Charles Cameron (who worked in our laboratory) and Professor Tichborne, chemist and governor of the Apothecaries' Hall.

Yours very truly,

Dublin, December 24.

P. A. LESLIE & Co.

[The following are the data in respect to the sample referred to:—

	Tichborne	Lapper
Sp. gr. ...	1.077	—
Extractive ...	28.8	32.7 per cent.
Spirit ...	—	17 per cent.

The percentage means grammes of extractive per 100 c.c.—EDITOR.]

#### Volunteer Army Compounders.

SIR,—Now that the War Office has decided to increase the pay of the Imperial Yeomanry owing to the unexpected prolongation of the war, it seems a fitting moment to draw the attention of the Government to the meagreness of the pay and thoroughly unsatisfactory conditions meted out to volunteer dispensers serving with the Royal Army Medical Corps. This section of volunteers includes, for the most part, gentlemen of good social standing, such as qualified chemists, students, and not a few medical practitioners, all of whom in the dark days of twelve months ago, at considerable personal sacrifice, stepped out and tendered their services to Queen and country. Their pay is 3s. 6d. per day, with the rank of "Private." These conditions were universally



recognised as being wholly inadequate, but the patriotic spirit then prevalent impelled these gentlemen to ignore them, never surmising for a moment that their services would be required for such a long period. In the Crimean War similar dispensers were paid 7s. 6d. per day, and ranked as lieutenants; in the Indian Mutiny, 12s. 6d. per day with the rank of ensign. I think that the increase in pay of the Imperial Yeomanry justifies the claim that the War Office will rectify this obvious evil, which has been the cause of so much indignation in the pharmaceutical and medical world.

Yours faithfully,

December 24.

ASCULAPIUS. 125/70.

### Dispensing Notes.

A section for the elucidation of difficulties and interchange of views on dispensing-problems.

#### Aural Ovoids.

224/36. *J. C. McW.* asks for information as to the manufacture of aural ovoids with a stem. Will some reader with practical experience oblige with particulars?

#### A Salicylic Mixture.

249/35. *Student* sends the following, asking if it is possible to mix it without suspending the quinine salicylate:—

Tr. cimicifugæ	...	...	...	3iij.
Liq. strychniæ	...	...	...	℥ 36
Quinina salicylatis	...	...	...	gr. 24
Acid. phosph. dil.	...	...	...	℥ 120
Elixir. aurant.	...	...	...	3j.
Aque	...	...	...	3vj.

M.

[We find it necessary to add tragacanth mucilage. Quinine salicylate is as insoluble as salicylic acid, which to the extent of a few grains is liberated.]

#### Codeine and a Bromide.

248/34. *Spero* finds that the following mixture yields an abundant crystalline precipitate:—

Codeinæ	...	...	...	gr. iv.
Ammon. brom.	...	...	...	3ss.
Tr. belladon.	...	...	...	℥xlviij.
Syr. tolut.	...	...	...	3iij.
Aq. chlorof. ad	...	...	...	3ij.

M.

[On trying the prescription we find that the precipitate makes the mixture nearly solid, and on examination it gives the reactions for codeine and hydrobromic acid, so that it appears to be codeine hydrobromide. An additional 2 oz. of water makes a clear mixture.]

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

237/25. *Battery*.—The Battery-salt you send consists of black oxide of manganese and chloride of silver. The mixture is expensive, but batteries charged with it last a long time.

248 8. *Ajax*.—(1) The small quantity of liquorice in your indigestion-mixture would not account for the griping effect experienced by some of your customers who take it. The cascara sagrada is doubtless the cause of the trouble, but as you do not say what the dose of the mixture is we cannot judge with certainty. (2) Shampoo-powder:—

Sodium bicarbonate...	...	...	3ij.
Dried curd-soap	...	...	3ij.
Oil of verbena	...	...	℥v.
Aniline orange (solution)	...	...	q.s.

Weigh into ½ oz. packets, sufficient for a pint of hot water.

237/45. *Rain*.—Acid phosphate of quinine is formed if concentrated solution of ferrous phosph. and quinine sulphate are allowed to stand for a time.

209/15. *Very Old Subscriber*.—Liquid Soap.—This is produced by saponifying with caustic potash the fatty acids

obtained by the action of dilute sulphuric acid on soda-soap and then adding a proportion of glycerin and spirit.

220 33. *Frostbite*.—For your Chilblains you might try Professor Wright's remedy, which consists in the administration of 6 gr. to 30 gr. of calcium chloride three times a day. "Diseases and Remedies" suggests a variety of applications.

185/6. *J. H. B. (N.S.W.)*.—Arsenical Sheep-dip.—Sodium carbonate is added to sheep-dip, not only to promote the solubility of the arsenic, but to give a penetrative effect to the dip on the wool. We do not think you would find the yellow arsenious sulphide alone (which is what the recipe you propose amounts to) would be so efficacious. The skin of a sheep is incapable of absorbing the arsenic if in sound condition.

259 63. *Montalto*.—Bronze-green Wood-stain is produced by dissolving malachite-green in spirit or water. When using aniline colours the range of tints is almost unlimited, but the effects vary very much with the kind of wood.

226/5. *A. A.*—Books on Manufacture of Artificial Manure.—Morfit's "Treatise on Pure Fertilisers," 84s. (Trübner); Sibson's "Artificial Manures," 2s. 6d. (Ridgway); Ville's "Artificial Manures," 21s. (Longman). Mr. Warington's article on the subject in Thorpe's "Dictionary of Applied Chemistry" is the most concise account we know of.

259/30. *J. W.*—Price-marks.—The commonest ones in use are "Mel Boracis," "Sold by Them," "Despumatio," "Gain by Them," "Fair Custom," "Cumberland," "Vin Aloes," and "Let us Pray." In vol. xxx. (January to June, 1887) of the *C. & D.* we published a hundred price-marks, to which you could refer if the above selection does not meet your wishes.

244/23. *J. T. P.*—The Mixture for Wheezing in canaries consists of tincture of capsicum and syrup of fennel. The colour seems to be due to cudbear.

180/55. *A. S. (N.S.W.)*.—The fine polish of the sample of Brown-boot Polish is due to the abnormal quantity of turpentine present. Turpentine is an important item in a brown-boot polish, but if present in large quantity ruins the leather.

165 38. *T. J. & Co.*—Colour of Soft Soap.—The B.P. allows soft soap to be either yellowish-white or yellowish-green. The source of the green colour was for long a mystery. The late Dr. Redwood contended that pure soft soap could not be yellowish-green, and in Allen's "Commercial Analysis" green soft soaps resulted if hemp-seed oil was used in the manufacture. It is now certain, however, that a suitable green olive oil yields a soft soap with a yellowish-green colour, and that Redwood was mistaken in condemning green soft soap as a factitious article.

251 8. *Aniline*.—For Colouring Cough-linctus for children's use, tincture of cudbear is preferable to an aniline dye. Tincture of Cudbear is made by percolating 2 oz. of cudbear in a pint of proof spirit. A nice bright-red colour is produced in an acid linctus.

256/67. *H. G.*—As a Heading for Ginger-beer tincture of quillaia (1 in 3 of weak spirit) is used in the proportion of 1 oz. to 4 gals.

154/34. *Barbarism*.—Hydrochloric Acid for tanners' use should be free from iron. The acid is used in very dilute solution to neutralise the lime left in the leather after the depilation process. If iron is present in the acid, staining of the fibre of the leather may result at the tanning stage. Hydrochloric acid is not suitable for sole-leather, as it prevents plumping. Creosotic acid is the newest acid for tanners' use.

144/22. *T. A. E. (Jamaica)*.—If you stored pulv. jalapæ in a stoppered bottle with a pledget of fused calcium chloride wrapped in cotton-wool placed in the hollow of the stopper, your trouble with the jalap going mouldy would cease. The calcium chloride needs renewing occasionally, but it suffices to heat the salt in a crucible for some time to restore it to usefulness.



229/4. *Jalap.*—(1) Artificial Kissingen Salts:—

Potassium chloride ...	...	...	17
Sodium chloride ...	...	...	357
Magnesium sulphate (anhyd.) ...	...	...	59
Sodium bicarbonate...	...	...	107

Mix.

24 gr. in 6 oz. of water makes the water.

## (2) Artificial Vichy Salts:—

Sodium bicarbonate...	...	...	846
Potassium carbonate	...	...	38.5
Magnesium sulphate (anhyd.)	...	...	33.5
Sodium chloride	...	...	77

Mix.

14 gr. to 6 oz. of water.

219/64. *Lifebuoy.*—The Mange-lotion is composed of liq. calcis sulphurata, a formula for which was last given in the *C. & D.*, November 17, page 810, under the name of "soluble sulphur."

215/57. *J. G. J.*—(1) The Ground-bait for fish appears to be a mixture of crushed wheat and breadcrumbs. (2) Glass labels are very difficult to remove from the front of drawers if well cemented on, but prolonged soaking of the edges of the labels with spirit eventually loosens them.

137/38. *Juno.*—(1) The hair-dye is a weak solution of ammonio-sulphate of copper. (2) The hæmorrhoidal ointment No. 2, page 631, "Pharmaceutical Formulas" is not too strong in lead acetate. (3) Iodine from Kelp.—It would not pay you to start manufacturing iodine from seaweed, as the process is not such a remunerative one as it was formerly. Caliche is rapidly becoming the chief source of iodine. The most concise monograph on the subject, by the late Mr. E. C. C. Stanford, is contained in Thorpe's "Dictionary of Applied Chemistry."

236/1. *Suffolk.*—Hair-dressing.—This is a nicely-scented wash containing approximately—

Ac. acet. aromat.	...	...	...	3ij.
Tr. canthar.	...	...	...	3iv.
Ess. bouquet...	...	...	...	3iv.
Spt. rosmarini	...	...	...	3iv.
Aque ad	...	...	...	3viij.

232/58. *Cortex.*—Indian Bark.—Your sample has the following composition:—

Tr. rhei	...	...	...	3iv.
Tr. cinchon. co.	...	...	...	3ij.
Spt. ætheris nit.	...	...	...	3ss.
Syrupi ad	...	...	...	3iv.

M.

7/64. *Universal.*—You do not give us any particulars about the gout and rheumatic mixture, so that we cannot judge whether it is worth analysing.

220/28. *E. J. C.*—The Pile-pills which have been found to have such a magical effect are chiefly composed of sulphur. There is a little powdered liquorice and excipient in addition to the sulphur.

237/16. *A. R. W.*—A Metal-polish recipe was last given in the *C. & D.*, June 9, page 977.

216/55. *Freeman's Neuralgia and Nerve Tonic* owes its virtues to the tinctures of nux vomica and gelsemium.

235/51. *W. W.*—Cream-of-Tartar Substitute.—Your sample is composed of acid phosphate of lime with about 10 per cent. of rice-flour. Further particulars of this class of goods are given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 280.

220/44. *Bike (N. Z.).*—(1) The Corn-ointment contains nearly 10 per cent. of salicylic acid in a basis which resembles ung. simplex (B.P., 1885). (2) The difficulty of the scale which forms in brazing bicycle-joints is one which our inquiries show cannot so far be remedied.

254/29. *Electricity.*—Tesla's method of treating consumption by tremendous doses of electricity does not seem to have progressed beyond the newspaper stage.

238/21. *Lemco.*—(1) Wheat-dressing.—This is composed of the following ingredients:—

Arsenic	...	...	...	4 oz.
Carbolic acid (crude)	...	...	...	2 oz.
Red ochre	...	...	...	10 oz.

This quantity is used for a sack of wheat. (2) Cough-draught for sheep:—

Tr. opii	...	...	...	3iiss.
Ol. terebinth.	...	...	...	3ij.
Ol. virid.	...	...	...	3ss.
Ol. lini ad	...	...	...	3iij.

This is one dose.

254/45. *J. C. F.*—Sloe Gin is made by filling bottles with sloes, pouring gin over them, and letting it stand for three months.

257/70. *Solvor.*—The Codex process for manufacturing Pancreatin is as follows:—

Pancreas	...	...	...	1 part
Water	...	...	...	2 parts

Separate extraneous matter from the sweetbreads, cut them up and place them in the water in which a little chloroform has been dissolved as a preservative. After a time separate the residue, press, and filter the liquid. Place it in a shallow vessel, and evaporate in a current of air at a temperature not exceeding 45° C.

245/33. *F.*—Sausage-flavour.—This was given in the *C. & D.*, June 3, 1899, page 903.

249/50. *Rad. Gent.*—"Damson blue" is probably the article referred to on page 1052.

249/41. *Charles.*—Sealing-wax like your sample:—

Shellac	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Venice turpentine	...	...	...	1½ lb.

Melt in a copper pan, and add—

Vermilion	...	...	...	1 lb.
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Cheaper waxes are made by replacing some of the shellac with resin.

228/17. *Holdfast.*—Mountant:—

Starch-powder	...	...	...	3iiiss.
Gelatin	...	...	...	3ij.
Spirit	...	...	...	3ij.
Formalin	...	...	...	5j.
Water	...	...	...	3xxx.

Soak and dissolve the gelatin in the water, heat to boiling, and pour, with constant stirring, on to the starch (previously mixed to a cream with a little cold water). When nearly cold add the formalin and pour the paste into jars.

225/20. *Pharmacist.*—Membership of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain is a matter of subscription. The Secretary, 66 Russell Square, W.C., will give you particulars.

241/10. *Hotspur.*—The sale of picric acid was dealt with in the *C. & D.*, November 24, page 850.

248/67. *Z. D.*—Liquid Soap.—See reply to 209/15 ("Very Old Subscriber"). A suitable antiseptic can be added to the liquid soap produced by the method there explained.

247/63. *L. S.*—We do not recollect the toilet-cream perfume, but you would probably find it in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

255/9. *H. F. W.*—We are not acquainted with a book on papier-mâché.

251/49. *Dot* asks for practical formulas (1) for giving brilliancy to the eyes, and (2) for reducing the development of a woman's bust. "Dot" has probably been asked for such articles, but the best policy would surely be to point out the foolishness of the requests to the customers and not attempt to supply them.

237/57. *Rodent.*—The Pasteur Institute, Paris, would supply you with rodent virus if it is still manufactured, but it is doubtful if it possesses advantages over the usual vermin-destroyers.



250/57. *Fides*.—It is not usual to pay an assistant's travelling-expenses unless an agreement is made to that effect.

253/44. *Delta*.—We cannot say what the liquid you send owes its smell to. It suggests trimethylamine.

235/42 *Myristica*.—Restoring Furniture-cream.—Melt the cream by placing it in a water-bath containing boiling water, but away from a naked flame, and then stir till cold or use an emulsifier to complete the process.

237/59. *F. T. B.*—We have a book on the manufacture of British wines, but it is out of print and date. No modern work except Brandt's on vinegar, and German books, is available.

233/25. *Optic*.—The eye-lotion you are using for the discharge is a good one, but bathing with a warm, fairly strong solution of boracic acid should be persevered in.

#### 108/15. *Bristol*.—Gingerade Powders:—

Tartaric acid	...	...	...	3j.
Oil of lemon	...	...	...	℥x.
Gingerin	...	...	...	℥ss.
Spirit-colouring	...	...	...	gr. xx.
Powdered sugar	...	...	...	1 lb.

Weigh into ounce packets and wrap in parchment paper. The contents of each packet are to be added to a pint of water.

240/35. *Danum*.—Your cough-mixture ferments, which accounts for its smashing the bottles. If you add  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz. spirit of chloroform to the 40-oz. quantity, the trouble will cease.

241/14. *Bradford*.—You should be able to find a suitable formula for developer among the thirty or forty given in the 1900 DIARY, page 266. The recipes there will give you the hint as to drawing up other formulas.

226/24. *Hotspur*.—(1) If your tr. opii is made from standardised opium, the product should be correct in morphine-content. (2) The precipitate in your cough-mixture will be inert vegetable matter. Glycerin would be better than mucilage in the formula.

248/20. *ᾠλογος*.—The matter you write about has been dealt with in an editorial article (*C. & D.*, December 1, page 886).

245/20. *J. C.*—You seem to be referring to the Joly colour-process for photographs, but a ruled screen is needed for viewing. The process has been described in the *C. & D.*, or you could refer for particulars to Mr. Bayley's "Photography in Colours," 1s. (Iliffe).

244/62. *J. S.*—Killing Garden-worms is best managed with a solution of mercuric chloride (1) in hydrochloric acid (1), water (19).

### Information Supplied.

#### Hayes's Asthma-remedies.

I had occasion some three months ago to examine these preparations, and I give your correspondent (165/2) the results of my work. The Hayes Institute supplies seven remedies altogether, but only four of them are important in connection with the treatment for asthma. They have numbers and letters to distinguish the various medicaments:—

No. 1, T 1 Q.—Contains potassium iodide, 20 gr. to each dose. Flavoured with tincture of orange.

No. 2, T 2 Q.—Contains potassio-tartrate of iron, 10 gr. to the dose, and a vegetable tincture, probably senna.

No. 3, 769 A. C. mixture.—Syrup of calcium iodide coloured a faint pink.

No. 4, 808.—Cinchonidine sulphate in capsules.

Hayes also supplies a cough-mixture containing turpentine or terebene with peppermint, a balsamic plaster, and ordinary little cathartic granules.

YANKEE DOODLE. (200/52.)

#### Damson-colouring.

As damsons were very plentiful this year, the fact may be mentioned that the colouring of this fruit is excellent for cough-mixtures, syrups, cordials, and Parrish's food, in place of the more expensive cochineal.

#### Port-wine Essence.

*Senega* (183/45) informs us that the following modification of the recipe given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 254, improves the flavour very much:—

Acetic ether	...	...	...	3j.
Essence of grape	...	...	...	3iij.
Essence of vanilla	...	...	...	3iii.
Tincture of kino	...	...	...	3iij.
Sloe-juice	...	...	...	3iv.
Essence of raspberry	...	...	...	3viv.

#### From Cape Colony.

Referring to the inquiries under "Information Wanted," and numbered 185/42 and 188/43 respectively:—"Riga Balsam" is generally considered out here to refer to tr. benzoin. co. "Moulton's Pain-paint and Herbal Extract" may be obtained from Messrs. Petersen, Barrack Street, Cape Town. "Dr. Mackenzie's Food" is put up and sold locally in the poorer parts of the town as an infant's food, and retails at 6d. and 1s. a tin.

THOS. H. HARRISON, Stellenbosch.

#### Tempering Scythes.

Your issue of August 25 contains an answer to "D. S. B." (150/49) in regard to tempering scythes. Some of the farmers here use a solution of ferrocyanide of potassium (4 oz. to Oj.) for tempering ploughshares, and claim that it makes them last very much longer. The ploughshare is plunged into the liquid when red hot. I don't know if this exactly meets your correspondent's inquiry, but the information may be of use to him.

Kyneton, Victoria.

A. STREDWICK.

### Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

11/58. Where can acetylene black be obtained?

23/64. Name and address of proprietors of "Larouba" and "Trezuka."

3/56. Makers of heavy white celluloid stoppers for glass screw soda-water bottles.

### Coming Events.

#### Tuesday, January 1.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 3 p.m. Continuation of Sir Robert Ball's Christmas lectures on "Great Chapters from the Book of Nature."

#### Wednesday, January 2.

Royal Photographic Society, 66 Russell Square, W.C., at 8 p.m. Opening of an Exhibition of Photographs by Mr. F. M. Sutcliffe, Whitby. The exhibition will remain open till February 16.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association. Prize-competition for assistants and apprentices.

Public and Poor-law Dispensers' Association, St. Bride's Institute, Bride Lane, Ludgate Circus, E.C. Annual meeting.

#### Thursday, January 3

Midland Pharmaceutical Association, Birmingham. Social evening, to which ladies are invited.

Röntgen Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 p.m. Mr. A. W. Isenthal on "Continental Progress in Practical Radiography and Apparatus." Dr. Sequiera will show some cases of rodent ulcer treated with x rays.

I HAVE used and tested several of the formulas in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," and have found them perfectly satisfactory. A. E. (238/2.)